THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

OR

LITERARY MISCELLANY,

FOR *FEBRUARY* 1800.

With a View of MELVILLE-CASTLE, *the Seat of the Right Hon. Henry Dundas.*

CONTENTS:

Page

Regiſter of the Weather for *Feb.* 81
High Water at *Leith* for *March*, ib.
Account of Experiments on Whinſtone, by *Sir James Hall*, Bart. 83
Hints of Inſtruction to any who may adopt the Route over Land from *India*, thro' Countries in *Aſia*, and thro' *Bulgaria*, &c. - - - - - - 87
Deſcription of the View, - - 88
On the Study of Natural Philoſophy, Natural Hiſtory, and Mathematics; in Letters from a Father to his Son, - - - 89
Eſſay on Landſcape Gardening, 92
On *Engliſh* Verſe, - - - - 94
The Probable Hiſtory of King *Arthur*, - - - - - - 96
Anecdotes of *Mirabeau* and *La Fayette*, - - - - - 101
On the Spirit of *Chivalry* in *Europe*, - - - - - - - - 104
On the Ancient and Modern Uſe of *Ghoſts*, - - - - - 108
New *Conſtitution* of *France*, - 111
—Of the Legiſlative Power - 113
—Of the Government, - - 114
—Of the Tribunal, - - - 115
—Of the Reſponſibility of the Public Functionaries, - - 116
—General Diſpoſitions, - - ib.
Letters from the *Miniſter* for *Foreign Affairs* in *France*, and from *Gen. Buonaparte*; with the Anſwers returned to them by the Right Hon. *Lord Grenville*, his *Majeſty's* Principal Secretary of *State* for *Foreign Affairs*, - - - - - 118
Memoirs of *Richard Brinſley Sheridan*, Eſq. - - - - 128
The *Prince* of *Geelaun* and the *King Mouſe*; a Perſian Tale, 133

POETRY.

Introduction to the Tale of the *Dark Ladie*; by *S. T. Coleridge*, - - - - - - 141
Ode for the *New Year*, by *H. J. Pye*, Eſq. - - - - - 142
The *Hermit Boy*, - - - - 143
The Affectionate Heart, by *Joſeph Cottle*, - - - - - - 144

MONTHLY REGISTER.

Proceedings of Parliament, - 145
Intereſting Intelligence from the *London Gazettes*, - - - 147
Affairs in *Scotland*, - - - 158
Trial of *Griffith Williams* for *Murder*, before the High Court of *Juſticiary*, - - - - - ib
Births, - - - - - - - ib.
Marriages and Deaths, - - 159

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from Feb. 1. to 25. 1800 in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1800. Feb.	Barom.	Thermom. M	Thermom. N.	Rain. In. Pts.	Weather.
1	29.315	32	36	0.351	Rain
2	29.295	36	41	0.04	Showers
3	29.311	36	43	—	Clear
4	29.85	36	44	—	Ditto
5	30.078	32	40	—	Ditto
6	30.115	35	38	—	Ditto
7	30.1	30	37	—	Ditto
8	30.111	32	36	—	Ditto
9	30.01	30	34	—	Ditto
10	30.	35	39	—	Cloudy
11	30.02	34	38	—	Clear
12	29.955	29	37	—	Ditto
13	29.815	30	39	—	Cloudy
14	29.955	34	40	—	Clear
15	29.921	33	35	0.04	Showers
16	29.751	33	37	—	Cloudy
17	29.681	37	38	0.431	Rain
18	29.6	35	43	—	Clear
19	29.551	42	47	—	Clear
20	29.5	35	39	—	Cloudy
21	29.31	38	44	—	Ditto
22	29.3	41	47	—	Ditto
23	29.311	38	42	—	Ditto
24	29.455	37	37	0.04	Sleet
25	29.6	35	37	0.03	Ditto

Quantity of Rain 0.952

High Water at LEITH for MARCH 1800.

(From the Town and Country Almanack.)

Days.	Morn. H. M.	Even. H. M.
Sa. 1.	6 6	6 27
Su. 2.	6 50	7 13
M. 3.	7 37	8 0
T. 4.	8 25	8 33
W. 5.	9 19	9 48
Th. 6.	10 14	10 40
Fr. 7.	11 8	11 34
Sa. 8.	—	0 4
Su. 9.	0 30	0 55
M. 10.	1 20	1 44
T. 11.	2 10	2 34
W. 12.	2 56	3 24
Th. 13.	3 47	4 12
Fr. 14.	4 37	5 3
Sa. 15.	5 30	6 0
Su. 16.	6 29	7 1
M. 17	7 31	8 2
T. 18.	8 32	9 3
W. 19.	9 32	10 1
Th. 20.	10 28	10 55
Fr. 21.	11 23	11 49
Sa. 22.	—	0 13
Su. 23.	0 34	1 1
M. 24.	1 19	1 41
T. 25.	2 4	2 26
W. 26.	2 45	3 7
Th. 27.	3 39	3 59
Fr. 28.	4 16	4 37
Sa. 29.	4 58	5 19
Su. 30.	5 45	6 7
M. 31.	6 29	6 54

MOON.

	D. H. M.
First Qrtr.	3. 5 32 even.
Full Moon	11. 5 35 morn.
Laſt Qrtr	17. 10 53 even.
New Moon	25. 8 21 morn.

THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

OR

LITERARY MISCELLANY,

FOR *FEBRUARY* 1800.

ACCOUNT OF EXPERIMENTS ON WHINSTONE. BY SIR JAMES HALL, BART. F. R. S. & F. A. S. EDIN.

[*From the Tranſactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.*]

THE experiments deſcribed in this paper were ſuggeſted to me many years ago, when employed in ſtudying the *Geological Syſtem* of the late Dr Hutton, by the following plauſible objection, to which it ſeems liable.

Granite, porphyry, and baſaltes, are ſuppoſed by Dr Hutton to have flowed in a ſtate of perfect fuſion into their preſent poſition; but their internal ſtructure, being univerſally rough and ſtony, appears to contradict this hypotheſis; for the reſult of the fuſion of earthly ſubſtances, hitherto obſerved in our experiments, either is glaſs, or poſſeſſes, in ſome degree, the vitreous character.

This objection, however, loſes much of its force, when we attend to the peculiar circumſtances under which, according to this theory, the action of heat was exerted. Theſe ſubſtances, when in fuſion, and long after their congelation, are ſuppoſed to have occupied a ſubterraneous poſition far below what was then the ſurface of the earth; and Dr Hutton has aſcribed to the modification of heat, occaſioned by the preſſure of the ſuperincumbent maſs, many important phenomena of the mineral kingdom, which he has thus reconciled to his ſyſtem.

One neceſſary conſequence of the poſition of theſe bodies, ſeems, however, to have been overlooked by Dr Hutton himſelf: I mean, that, after their fuſion, they muſt have cooled very ſlowly; and it appeared to me probable, on that account, that, during their congelation, a cryſtallization had taken place, with more or leſs regularity, producing the ſtony and cryſtallized ſtructure, common to all unſtratified ſubſtances, from the large grained granite, to the fine grained and almoſt homogeneous baſalt. This conjecture derived additional probability from an accident ſimilar to thoſe formerly obſerved by Mr Keir, which had juſt happened at Leith: a large glaſs-houſe pot, filled with green bottle glaſs in fuſion, having cooled ſlowly, its contents had loſt every character of glaſs, and had completely aſſumed the ſtony ſtructure.

Theſe views made part of a paper which I had the honour of laying before the Society in 1790; and about the ſame time I determined to ſubmit my opinions to the teſt of experiment. I communicated this intention

tion to all my friends, and in particular to Dr Hutton; from him, however, I received but little encouragement. He was impreſſed with the idea, that the heat to which the mineral kingdom has been expoſed was of ſuch intenſity, as to lie far beyond the reach of our imitation, and that the operations of nature were performed on ſo great a ſcale, compared to that of our experiments, that no inference could properly be drawn from the one to the other. He has ſince expreſſed the ſame ſentiments in one of his late publications. (*Theory of the Earth, vol. I. p.* 251.) where he cenſures thoſe who "judge of the "great operations of the mineral "kingdom, from having kindled a "fire, and looked into the bottom of "a little crucible."

But, notwithſtanding my veneration for Dr Hutton, I could not help differing from him on this occaſion: For, granting that theſe ſubſtances, when in fuſion, were acted upon by a heat of ever ſo great intenſity, it is certain, nevertheleſs, that many of them muſt have congealed in moderate temperatures, ſince many are eaſily fuſible in our furnaces; for it is impoſſible that a ſubſtance ſhould congeal at a higher point than that at which it may afterwards be melted. If, then, theſe phenomena depend upon the circumſtances of congelation, the imitation of the natural proceſs is an object which may be purſued with a rational expectation of ſucceſs; and, could we ſucceed in a few examples on a ſmall ſcale, and with eaſily fuſible ſubſtances, we ſhould be entitled to extend the theory, by analogy, to ſuch as, by their bulk, or by the refractory nature of their compoſition, could not be ſubjected to our experiments. It is thus that the aſtronomer, by obſerving the effects of gravitation on a little pendulum, is enabled to eſtimate the influence of that principle on the heavenly bodies, and thus to extend the range of accurate ſcience to the extreme limits of the ſolar ſyſtem.

Encouraged by this reaſoning, I began my projected ſeries of experiments in the courſe of the ſame year (1790,) with very promiſing appearances of ſucceſs. I found that I could command the reſult which had occurred accidentally at the glaſs-houſe; for, by means of ſlow cooling, I converted bottle glaſs, after fuſion, into a ſtony ſubſtance, which again, by the application of ſtrong heat, and ſubſequent rapid cooling, I reſtored to the ſtate of perfect glaſs. This operation I performed repeatedly with the ſame ſpecimen, ſo as to aſcertain that the character of the reſult was ſtony or vitreous, according to the mode of its cooling.

Some peculiar circumſtances interrupted the proſecution of theſe experiments till laſt winter, (1798) when I determined to reſume them. Deliberating on the ſubſtance moſt proper to ſubmit to experiment on this occaſion, I was decided by the advice of Dr Hope,* well known by his diſcovery of the Earth of Strontites, to give the preference to whinſtone.

The term whinſtone, as uſed in moſt parts of Scotland, denotes a numerous claſs of ſtones, diſtinguiſhed in other countries by the names of baſaltes, trap, wacken, grünſtein and porphyry. As they are, in my opinion, mere varieties of the ſame claſs, I conceive that they ought to be connected by ſome common name, and

* In the courſe of laſt winter, when I firſt thought of reſuming my experiments, I propoſed to this gentleman, that, in imitation of a practice, common in the Academy of Sciences of Paris, we ſhould perform them in company. To this propoſal he cheerfully agreed; but, before any experiments had been begun, he found himſelf ſo much occupied by profeſſional duties, that he could not beſtow upon the ſubject the time which it neceſſarily required; and we gave up the idea of working in company.

and have made use of this, already familiar to us, and which seems liable to no objection, since it is not confined to any particular species.*.

The following experiments were performed with various kinds of whinstone, and have likewise been extended to lava. To investigate the relation between these two classes of substances, seems, in the present state of geology, an object of considerable importance; for they resemble each other in so many respects, that we are naturally led to ascribe the formation of both to the same cause, and to believe that whinstone, as well as lava, has been exposed to the action of heat. In the course of the paper, I shall mention several accidental results, which, if considered separately, might seem unworthy of notice, but which, by affording the means of comparison between the two classes, are of great service in the general investigation.

The whinstone first employed was taken from a quarry* near the Dean, on the Water of Leith, in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh. This stone is an aggregate of black and greenish-black hornblend, intimately mixed with a pale reddish-brown matter, which has some resemblance to felspar, but is far more fusible. Both substances are imperfectly and confusedly crystallized in minute grains. The hornblend is in the greatest proportion; and its fracture appears to be striated, though in some parts foliated; that of the reddish-brown matter is foliated. The fracture of the stone *en masse* is uneven, and it abounds in small facettes, which have some degree of lustre. It may be scratched, though with difficulty, by a knife, and gives an earthy smell when breathed on. It frequently contains small specks of pyrites.

On the 17th of January 1798, I introduced a black lead crucible, filled with fragments of this stone, into the great reverberating furnace at Mr Barker's iron foundry. In about a quarter of an hour, I found that the substance had entered into fusion, and was agitated by a strong ebullition. I removed the crucible, and allowed it to cool rapidly. The result was a black glass, with a tolerably clean fracture, interrupted however by some specks.

In subsequent experiments, I endeavoured, by slow cooling after fusion, to prevent the whinstone from becoming vitreous, and to compel it to resume its original character by crystallization. In this I so far succeeded as to obtain a substance, which was not glass, though it did not possess the properties of whinstone. The production of this intermediate substance, which much resembled the liver of an animal, is accompanied with some curious particulars, which I shall enumerate and explain in another part of this paper. On some occasions, too, I obtained a vitreous mass, in which were a multitude of little spheres, having a dull or earthly fracture.

At last, on the 27th January, I succeeded completely in the object I had in view. A crucible, containing a quantity of whinstone, melted in the manner above described, being removed from the reverberatory, and conveyed rapidly to a large open fire, was immediately surrounded with burning coals, and the fire, after being maintained several hours, was allowed to go out. The crucible, when cold, was broken, and was found to contain a substance, differing in all respects

* In characterising the particular specimens, I have adopted, with scarcely any variation, descriptions drawn up by Dr Kennedy, whose name I shall have occasion frequently to mention in the course of this paper. In the employment of terms, we have profited by the advice of Mr Dr.abin, a gentleman well versed in the language of the Wernerian School.

† Called Bell's Mills Quarry.

ſpects from glaſs, and in texture completely reſembling whinſtone. Its fracture was rough, ſtony, and cryſtalline; and a number of ſhining facettes were interſperſed through the whole maſs. The cryſtallization was ſtill more apparent in cavities produced by air bubbles, the internal ſurface of which was lined with diſtinct cryſtals*.

Having ſhewn this reſult to ſeveral of my friends, Dr Hope regretted that the ſubſtance, previouſly to its artificial cryſtallization, had not been reduced to the ſtate of ſolid glaſs; ſince the adverſaries of the ſyſtem might alledge, that, during the action of heat, the original cryſtallized texture of the ſtone had never been completely deſtroyed. Being convinced of the propriety of this obſervation, I determined, in future, to reduce the ſtone firſt to glaſs, and to perform the cryſtallization after a ſecond fuſion.

For this purpoſe, with the aſſiſtance of Dr Kennedy, to whoſe cooperation I am greatly indebted for the ſucceſs of all the following experiments, I reduced a quantity of the ſame whinſtone to moſt perfect black glaſs. A crucible, filled with fragments of this glaſs, being then expoſed to a heat, which, from previous trials, was judged to be more than ſufficient to reduce its contents to fuſion, the fire was very gradually lowered till all was cold. I thus expected to obtain a reſult ſimilar to that laſt mentioned, but found, to my great ſurpriſe, that the fragments had never been in complete fuſion, ſince they ſtill, in a great meaſure, retained their original ſhape. This extraordinary fact, which afterwards led to the diſcovery of ſome curious properties of whinſtone, will be fully accounted for in a ſubſequent part of the paper.

Another portion of the ſame glaſs being perfectly melted by a very ſtrong heat, the temperature was reduced to about 28 of Wedgwood, and was maintained at that pitch during ſix hours. The reſult was a perfectly ſolid maſs cryſtallized to a certain depth from the outſide, though ſtill virteous in the heart.

In another experiment, performed like the laſt in all reſpects, except that the heat was maintained at 28 during twelve hours, I obtained a maſs entirely cryſtalline and ſtony throughout, with facettes appearing in the ſolid parts, and ſmall cryſtals ſhooting into ſome of the cavities.

Soon after I had communicated theſe reſults to Dr Hope, he performed, with complete ſucceſs, an experiment ſimilar to the firſt, in which I had obtained a cryſtallized ſubſtance, by the gradual cooling of the melted ſtone. The ſame was likewiſe, ſoon afterwards, performed by Mr Boſwell of Auchinleck.

My experiments, already deſcribed, were confined to one ſpecies of whinſtone, but have ſince been extended to ſix other varieties†. They were all firſt reduced to glaſs by the application of a ſtrong heat, and ſubſequent rapid cooling. After a ſecond fuſion they were cryſtallized, by being kept long in a ſtationary temperature, between 28 and 30. This laſt operation was beſt performed in a long and narrow muffle, wholly ſurround-

* I ſhowed this reſult at a meeting of the Society on 5th of February.

† 1. Whin of the Rock of Edinburgh Caſtle.
2. Whin of the Baſaltic Columns on Arthur's Seat, near Edinburgh.
3. Whin from the neighbourhood of Duddingſtone Loch.
4. Whin of Saliſbury Craig near Edinburgh.
5. Whin from the Water of Leith.
6. Whin of the Baſaltic Columns of Staffa.

ſurrounded with burning coals, according to a practice long followed by Dr Kennedy, by which the heat could be maintained with ſo great ſteadineſs as to render the reſult almoſt certain.

HINTS OF INSTRUCTION TO ANY WHO MAY ADOPT THE ROUTE OVER LAND FROM INDIA, THRO' COUNTRIES IN ASIA, AND THRO' BULGARIA, &c.

(From Jackſon's Journey from India towards England, in 1797.)

AT Buſſora, the traveller ſhould equip himſelf like the Arabs. It will be neceſſary for him, as ſoon as he embarks, or even before, to ſuffer his beard to grow; but, as it may be uncomfortable to wear his beard at full length, it will be ſufficient if he do but preſerve his muſtachoes. This, however, muſt be particularly attended to, and can by no means be diſpenſed with; for, though a man without a beard might be ſafe in a large city, or in any civilized place, yet in a journey of this nature, wherein he will often meet with barbarous wandering tribes, who would not heſitate a moment about putting him to death if they ſhould diſcover that he was a Fringui*, he will perceive the neceſſity of imitating the Arabs in dreſs as nearly as poſſible.

As few Europeans have any knowledge of the Arabic language, particularly as it is ſpoken in Arabia, he will be much at a loſs, eſpecially when he has none but Arabs about him. He will, therefore, find it uſeful to have with him a kind of vocabulary, to enable him to aſk uſeful or neceſſary queſtions.

When the traveller arrives at Bagdad, he will find that the Engliſh are more reſpected than any other nation; he will therefore feel the neceſſity of acting in the moſt honourable manner in every tranſaction, that he may ſupport the dignity of the national character; for ſuch is the illiberal way of thinking among theſe people, that, ſhould an individual of any country act meanly, the people would condemn all his nation; and the bad conduct of one perſon might thus endanger the lives of hundreds of his countrymen, who might adopt the ſame route.

From Bagdad there is but one mode of travelling, which is under the guidance and protection of the Tartars, or meſſengers of government. Theſe men are under the immediate order of the Baſha and his miniſters; but are at all times ready to enter into any contract with an individual, which they uſually make very profitable to themſelves, particularly when they have to conduct thoſe who are enabled to obtain firmauns†; for, by virtue of theſe, the Tatars are enabled to take ſeveral horſes and attendants, and a large quantity of merchandiſe on their return, which pays them very well. In the Author's firmaun it was intimated that he was an Engliſh Conſul, which enabled his Tatar to obtain guards (free of expence) whenever there was danger to be apprehended from the wandering tribes. This is by far the ſafeſt way of travelling, as the perſon of a conſul is ſeldom inſulted.

Great care ſhould be taken when an agreement is about to be made with a Tatar. It is adviſable to pay him only half of the money agreed for at Bagdad, that he may have an intereſt in delivering the traveller ſafe at Conſtantinople. Care ſhould be

* A term given to Chriſtians in General. The Arabs call Europe Fringuiſtan.

† Theſe give the Tatar and traveller a great deal of authority over the people, particularly over thoſe who are appointed by government to accommodate the Tatars.

be taken alſo, that the Tatar does not engage to carry merchandize for any one, which he will do if poſſible.

The neceſſaries which the traveller takes ſhould be compreſſed into as narrow a compaſs as poſſible. A little tea, coffee, and ſugar, will be ſerviceable in the winter ſeaſon; and ſome ſpirits, either brandy or hollands, may be uſeful; but he ſhould by no means be encumbered with either of theſe in ſummer.

The traveller ſhould be equipped in the ſame manner as the Tatar, which will always enſure him reſpect. Some have attempted to travel under the character of the Tatar's ſervants (the Armenian merchants in particular do this,) but the Author conſiders it as too degrading for the character of an Engliſhman. The Tatars, who are accuſtomed to travel very faſt, uſually ride the hindmoſt horſe of the company, and whip the the other beaſts to keep them going. This ſhould never be permitted; but whoever attempts a journey of this kind ſhould be a good horſeman.

The traveller ought not to encumber himſelf with ſpecie, except about half a dozen piaſtres, to give as preſents to thoſe who may render ſome little ſervices. He will, it is true, be often ſolicited for gifts, but ſhould always refer the applicants to his Tatar; and when they find that, they will not apply a ſecond time. It is much more prudent to take bills drawn by the merchants, which will uſually meet due honour, while they offer no temptation to robbers.

From Conſtantinople, if the traveller be unacquainted with the language, it will be neceſſary to engage a Janizary to conduct him to the frontiers, who will be paid in about the ſame proportion as the Tatars.

It has often been a ſubject of inquiry, which is the ſpeedieſt method of forwarding diſpatches to and from India? The Author is of opinion, that the route by which he came muſt be the moſt expeditious for forwarding diſpatches to India. When the meſſenger arrives at Bagdad, he can ſet out immediately in a kiraffe down the Tigris till he reaches the Hie, down which he will proceed till he enters the Euphrates. By this channel he may be able to reach Buſſora in three days, which muſt be much quicker than going by land to Hilla, and from thence down the Euphrates.

The uſual mode of forwarding diſpatches from India is by the way of Buſſora, over the Great Deſert to Aleppo; from thence to Conſtantinople, and afterwards by the German poſt to Vienna and Hamburgh. This is certainly done at an eaſy expence, and much leſs than by way of Bagdad; but the latter would, no doubt, be a quicker route in caſe of neceſſity, as the Arabs are obliged to croſs the Great Deſert on camels.

DESCRIPTION OF THE VIEW.

MELVILLE-Caſtle, the Seat of the Right Honourable Henry Dundas, ſtands in a low ſituation, on the northern bank of the North Eſk, near to the village and pariſh church of Laſſwade, at the diſtance of about five miles South Weſt from Edinburgh and about three miles Weſt from Dalkeith. It is not ſeen from any conſiderable diſtance. The adjacent grounds, on both ſides of the river, advance boldly almoſt to the very edge of the ſtream; then terminating ſomewhat abruptly, leave on either ſide a ſmall extent of low-lying level mead, between the deſcent and the bank of the river. The tract of level mead on the northern bank is the broadeſt, and here ſtands Melville Caſtle. From the higher grounds immediately above, the proſpect is ſufficiently rich, extenſive, and varied. Some fine wood is ſcattered near the Houſe, and round the Park.

In the preſent view, Melville-Caſtle is ſuppoſed to be ſeen from the ſouthern bank of the river, on which it ſtands.

ON

ON THE STUDY OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, NATURAL HISTORY, AND MATHEMATICS.

From Dr Aikin's Letters from a Father to his Son, Vol. II.

ONE of the moſt material circumſtances on which the relative value of an object of ſtudy depends, is, that it be ſomething real, ſtable, of general import, and not indebted for its conſequence to temporary and conventional modes of thinking. In this reſpect, nature has greatly the advantage over art. Whatever is learned concerning her is an eternal truth, which will preſerve its relation to other things as long as the world endures. The motions of the heavenly bodies, the influence of the elements, the properties of minerals, vegetables, and animals, are *grand facts*, which ſpeak a common language to all mankind in all ages, and afford a perpetual fund of uſe and entertainment. The more wide and comprehenſive a ſurvey is taken of theſe objects, the better they anſwer the purpoſe of enlarging the mind, and eſtabliſhing a baſis for truths of univerſal application. Hence the advantage of ſtudying them in a connected and ſyſtematic mode, and framing general propoſitions concerning them. But the foundation for theſe muſt be a very accurate inveſtigation of particular facts, ſince the inſtant their guidance is quitted, and reliance is placed upon analogical deductions, error commences. Obſervation and experiment muſt therefore go hand in hand with reaſoning; nor was there ever a true philoſopher who did not unite theſe proceſſes. I can conceive of no employment of the human faculties nobler than thoſe taking the ſcale of creation, detecting all its mutual connexions and dependencies, inveſtigating the laws by which it is governed as a whole, and the economy of its conſtituent parts, and alternately making uſe of the ſagacity of the ſenſes in minute reſearch, and the powers of intellect in comparing and abſtracting. The ſtudies, then, which range under the heads of natural philoſophy and natural hiſtory, and are comprehended under the general term of phyſics, appear to me to take the lead of all mental purſuits with reſpect to extent, variety, and dignity. Let it be underſtood, however, that I include among them the ſtudy of one of the nobleſt objects nature preſents, and certainly the moſt intereſting to a human creature—that of man himſelf. To aſcertain what he eſſentially is, what are the faculties of body and mind which characterize him as the head of the animal creation, and what are the variations induced in him by education, habit, climate, and mode of life, is ſtrictly a branch of phyſics, and has by the beſt writers been treated as ſuch.

It is, doubtleſs, impoſſible for a ſingle mind to embrace all the objects here pointed out, ſo as to fathom the depths of human knowledge in each; to be at the ſame time the mind of Newton, Locke, Boyle, and Haller; but according to the degree in which a man hath imbibed the leading ideas which conſtituted the intellectual furniture of ſuch minds, I ſhould eſtimate the value of his attainments; and I ſhould prefer, though not in point of genius, yet with reſpect to acquiſitions, one who combined a tolerably accurate acquaintance with all the branches of knowledge poſſeſſed by theſe, to a complete adept in any one of them. The laſt mentioned of the above perſons, Haller, was ſcarcely, I believe, ſurpaſſed by any man in the variety, and at the ſame time the ſolidity, of his phyſical knowledge. Buffon may be named as one whoſe general views were as grand,

grand, and whose pursuits were planned upon as enlarged a scale, as those of any person whom studies of this class have rendered famous, though he wanted accuracy and solidity in many of the particulars of his speculations. As a criterion of this capaciousness and elevation of understanding, I would suppose a delegate sent from this earth to explore some other world, and bring back the most complete and important information concerning it:—the person duly selected for such a mission would, in my idea, possess a title to the superiority in question.

Although nature, thus studied, appears to me the noblest of all subjects that can occupy the mind, I am far from affixing the same proportionate value to investigations of detached parts of the works of nature. In these, all the grandeur of large and connected views is frequently lost, and the whole attention is employed on petty details, which lead to nothing further. A very little mind may successfully apply itself to the arrangement of shells and butterflies by their forms and colours, and gain nothing by the process but the simple ideas of form and colour, as serving for marks of distinction. To such minds, an arrangement of ribbands by their shades and patterns would be a perfectly similar employment. I do not deny that even these humble labourers in science are necessary to complete the great fabric of the system of nature, and give accuracy and uniformity to its nomenclature. Their industry and exactness deserve praise; but it is better for a student, capable of more extensive views, to make use of their labours, than to imitate them. What I have said, however, must be understood with limitation; for, as I have already observed, it is incumbent on the inquirer into nature to spare no pains in the accurate search after facts; but these should be facts not trifling or insulated, but essential to the formation of those general theorems in which systematical knowledge consists. It is certain, for instance, that while the Linnæn class of *cryptogamia* subsists, the vegetable economy must be very incompletely known. It cannot, however, be abolished without the minutest examination of the generative organs of mosses, ferns, algæ, lichens, &c. which may therefore reasonably employ the ablest and most philosophical naturalist. Bonnet, a philosopher in every sense of the word, occupied himself for years in microscopical observations and experiments on the smallest parts of nature, but it was with the purpose of establishing important conclusions concerning the essential characters of the animal and vegetable kingdoms, and the limits between each. Modern chemistry is one of the most important branches of physics, and comprehends many truly sublime speculations relative to the globe we inhabit; but its theory is entirely built upon experiments, in which the nicest mechanical attentions are necessary to avoid fundamental errors.

Mathematical studies must already be supposed to stand high in my estimate, since I have placed in the first class those large and sublime views of nature, some of which could not originally have been formed, nor can now be comprehended, without the principles of mathematics. But besides their undoubted value as means, they have by many been pursued ultimately as affording the highest and purest exercise to the intellectual powers.

Fully sensible of my own inadequacy to judge of their worth in this respect, and fearful of giving way to partiality, I shall only speak of them from observing their effects upon others. As far as I have remarked, few of those who, during the early part of their lives, have gone deep into mathematics, acquire such a relish for them, as to be induced spontaneously

taneouſly to continue their application to them at an after-period. Whether it be that they find the requiſite mental exertion too ſevere, or that they become wearied with ſtudies which offer no further proſpects, and furniſh no materials for converſation—it ſeems to me to be the fact, that mathematical purſuits are uſually deſerted as ſoon as the incidental motives which cauſed them to be entered upon, or the firſt ardour of curioſity, have ceaſed. Where this has not been the caſe, they are ſometimes found to occupy the whole mind, to the excluſion of all other objects, pleaſant or uſeful; and ſurely the ideas of figure and number alone are inſufficient to fill the compaſs of the human underſtanding. A ſtory is told of a profound mathematician, who being with difficulty perſuaded to read through Homer's Iliad, coldly obſerved at the concluſion, that he did not find that the author had *proved* any thing. It would, however, be very unjuſt to repreſent this inſenſibility as the univerſal reſult of mathematical ſtudies. Many inſtances may be produced of their alliance in the ſame perſon with polite and philoſophical literature. Of theſe, it will ſuffice to mention the late celebrated d'Alembert, a diſtinguiſhed member at the ſame time of the Academy of Sciences, and the French Academy, and an admired writer on a variety of topics. A proficiency in abſtract mathematics is certainly an undoubted proof of great mental capacity; and I ſuppoſe the extent of the ſtudy is ſuch, that no apprehenſions need be entertained of exhauſting its objects. Whether, with no further view, it be worth while to expend ſo much time and exertion upon it, I leave you to determine for yourſelf.

Without tracing farther the circle of human knowledge, I ſhall bring my letter to a concluſion after a general obſervation. No kinds of ſtudy can differ more from each other, than the ſame from itſelf, as purſued by a man of a ſtrong, and by one of a weak underſtanding. The firſt will render a ſmall object important; the ſecond, an important one little. The hiſtory of literature abounds with inſtances in proof of this aſſertion—I ſhall mention one. Elias Aſhmole, in the laſt century, obtained conſiderable reputation here in the multifarious character of a *philoſopher*. He was an aſtronomer, but this noble ſcience in his hands turned to judicial aſtrology. He was a chymiſt, but under this title alchemy was the real object of his purſuit. He was a naturaliſt, but his taſte rather led him to be a collector, than a ſcientific obſerver of nature. He was an antiquary, and in that capacity made large collections for the hiſtory of free-maſonry in this country: afterwards he ſoared to the moſt noble order of the Garter, the hiſtory of which, with all its laws and inſtitutions, was his *opus magnum*. In this man were united the valuable qualities of induſtry, exactneſs, and perſeverance; but the foundation of good ſenſe was wanting.—How different from one 'qui nil molitur 'inepte,' all whoſe purſuits are directed by a ſound underſtanding! Such an one was the wiſe Franklin, who from the moſt trivial facts could deduce the moſt important concluſions—who had always ſomething truly valuable in proſpect—and whoſe touch converted every meaner material to gold.

It is not, then, merely the ſpecies of ſtudy, but the mind and ſpirit with which it is purſued, that ſhould regulate our eſtimate of the intellectual powers of the ſtudent. Folly often conceals herſelf under the maſk of ſerioufneſs, and wiſdom ſometimes is light and playful. The latter knows ſhe hazards nothing by occaſionally deſcending from her dignity; whereas folly loſes all by loſing appearances. A great latitude of mental occupation may be admitted, provided

good sense presides over all—that quality which truly is, as our ethical poet asserts,

'Though no science, fairly worth the seven.'

Farewell!

ESSAY ON LANDSCAPE GARDENING.

From a New Description of Blenheim.

NATURAL taste is the foundation of all picturesque embellishment. To seize the grand outline with the mind's eye, to adapt the design to the predominant features in the landscape, to unfold the beauties of nature by the masterly touches of art, is the sublime province of the ornamental composer of rural scenery.

That this science has been cultivated with the greatest success in this country, even jealousy and national vanity will not pretend to deny. Foreign writers, distinguished for their taste, have allowed the English the pre eminence in landscape and ornamental gardening; and that they were the first who emancipated themselves from the trammels of prejudice; and recurring to Nature, which had long been banished from the seats of the great, invited her to her deserted abodes, and gave her a new and imposing aspect.

Kent saw the incongruity of artificial design. The straight walk, the clipped hedge, the tortured yew, sunk beneath the superior chastity of his taste. He made as much progress as an innovator, who had a prevailing bad taste to contend with, could be expected to do. Perhaps his own was not quite correct. One age seldom unfolds an idea, and brings that idea to perfection. We have had schools of painting as well as of ornamental scenery. Some masters were distinguished for one excellence, and some for another. The force of genius has at intervals prevailed over disadvantages, and produced works to be admired, though not in every respect deserving imitation. Reynolds, with a mind enlightened by science, and chastised by taste, embodied the form, and caught the character which he transfused into the colouring on the canvas. He grouped—he combined. He followed nature, and therefore succeeded; but he had great artists among his predecessors, who paved the way for the attainment of excellence.

It was not thus with picturesque embellishment. The science was comparatively new; and where attempts had been made, they were in general conducted on a wrong plan, or proceeded from a vitiated taste.

Kent had every obstacle in his way; yet he accomplished much; and gratitude is due to him who deviates from a wrong path, and aspires to perfection, though he may not reach her temple.

To Kent succeeded Brown—a man originally bred a gardener; and from this fortuitous circumstance, without a particle of his genius, every person who can superintend a kitchen-garden, or handle a spade, has thought himself qualified to quit his sphere, and attempt design. But Brown possessed an originality of conception, a poet's eye, and an instinctive taste for rural embellishment. He was at last animated and inspired by some of his own creations.

He saw the deformity of perverted beauty with keener optics than Kent—he viewed Nature with the enthusiasm of a lover; and though it cannot be denied, that he sometimes tricked her out in meretricious ornaments, and patched her with unmeaning clumps, he never lost sight of her prominent charms, and his worst errors are only like minute pimples on a beautiful face*.

We have, however, seen this mighty

* Brown, as an ingenious critic observes, made it his maxim to follow and to copy

mighty master of picturesque embellishment severely censured by some of his own countrymen, who, indulging too much in the visions of theory, have denied him the merit of practical excellence. Because Brown could execute better than he could describe, and worked by self-taught rules, he has been attacked with asperity; and some of his most capital performances have been ascribed to chance, or to a dereliction of his own principles.

But who can reduce the infinite variety of situations that are to be improved to any systematic principles? The powerful genius of a place will imperiously set rules at defiance; and, in fact, Art can only be the handmaid of Nature, whose beauties, presenting a boundless variety, are alike indignant of confinement and control.

The attempt at system is only an effort to bring us back to what has justly been explored. 'I have no 'magical skill in planting roses,' says Gray. Nature disdains the fetters of art. The best principles can never be universally applicable to all situations in an equal degree. The painter may invent or reject at pleasure, and adhere to the rules of his art: the embellisher of landscape is more confined in his operations; he cannot always reject—he can only improve. His invention may cover some defects; but it cannot always command the excellencies he might wish. Besides, a flat surface and an extended natural scene are very different materials to work on, and will have very different effects when viewed by the eye of natural taste*, the only just criterion of rural embellishment.

The chef dœuvre of Brown was the improvements at Blenheim. He had the noblest field to display his talents on, and he did not labour in vain. But though he traced the outline with effect, the correct taste of the noble possessor of this magnificent place has enabled him to give it many additional touches, and to improve its drapery. He has, however, preserved the unity of the design, and only heightened the colouring. Who that now visits these picturesque scenes can deny, but that plantations have been applied to all the principal purposes which M. De Girardin, perhaps copying from his beloved Ermenonville, conceives ought to be their grand objects:

'To form the perspective or side 'scenes of the fore ground that may 'best connect the distances with the 'principal points of view.

'To raise such elevations or scenes 'as may give relief even to an abso-'lute flat.

'To hide all disagreeable objects.

'To give more extent to those 'that are pleasing, by concealing 'their terminations behind a mass of 'wood; by which means the imagi-'nation continues them beyond the 'point where they are seen.

'To give an agreeable outline to 'all surfaces, whether of land or 'water.'

These are the ideas of a master; and we here see them realized. They who think justly, in matters not under the influence of passion, will generally think the same: hence often coincidence without intention.

But while Brown has been too indiscriminately condemned, he has also been too lavishly praised, where he is least defensible. His clumps must in many cases be given up by his most zealous partisans, or receive a degree of connexion by intermediate planting, as has been done at Blenheim, to

copy Nature; whom, if he did not always represent in the images he set up to her honour, he at least caused to be admired and adored.

* By natural taste is meant that quick perception of the beauties and deformities of nature, which enables a person at once to decide. No faculty is more rare. It requires the union of a poetic imagination with a correct judgment.

to preſerve the uniformity of the ſcene. His unvarying circular belts too, where they are not broken into maſſes, as we ſee them here, and when they ſerve to exclude the proſpect of the ſurrounding country, are real defects in picturesque beauty. No kind of property is leſs the object of envy, or more grateful to the eye, than to take poſſeſſion of a country in an extenſive view: it contributes to the general beauty, and is equally enjoyed by all, without offence to any. That diſplay of nature is certainly moſt magnificent, which is bounded only by the horizon: where ſcenes under the immediate view preſent the moſt captivating charms, and where diſtance harmonizes with the foreground,

ON ENGLISH VERSE.

RHYME, we have often been told, is a modern invention; though, if that was a crime, it might perhaps be proved to be not ſo very modern neither. It is reckoned a barbarous one by ſome pedants; who finding, I ſuppoſe, by the opinion of better judges than themſelves, that it is abominable in Greek and Latin, conclude it muſt not be leſs ſo in French and Engliſh. The contrary is evident to every one that has ears, and dares think for himſelf; for, in Engliſh, rhyme is capable of much harmony: and the French can have no verſification without it. But ſome people, who ought to know better, ſeem to make no allowance for the original difference between one language and another; and are ready to quarrel with the Engliſh as a barbarous language, becauſe it is not Latin or Greek. They do not conſider, that every language has powers and graces peculiar to itſelf; and that what is becoming in one would be quite ridiculous in another. Of this it is ſufficient to produce one obvious example: The tranſpoſition of words, which gives ſuch a grace and ſpirit to the Greek and Latin languages, and without which they would become deteſtably flat and inſipid, does not at all ſuit the genius of the Engliſh; except ſometimes in poetry; and, by the way, I am afraid there are too many ungraceful tranſpoſitions current among our Engliſh poets.

But it is not only a few obſcure pedants, who are thus diſſatisfied with their mother tongue; and would be glad for its improvement to torture it from its native ſhape, ſome into Latin and others into French; for attempts of this kind have actually been made by men of ſuperior note. Sir Philip Sidney, who, notwithſtanding his affected manner, muſt be allowed to have poſſeſſed a great ſhare of genius, would every now and then ſpur up his gallant Engliſh into a moſt unbecoming ridiculous trot after the Greek and Latin Hexameters. It is certainly impoſſible to introduce the Greek and Latin meaſures into Engliſh poetry with any ſucceſs; yet Sir Philip was fond of this project, and purſued it with a ſtrange obſtinacy. He recommended it to Spenſer; but Spenſer had too true an ear to reliſh ſuch awkward unnatural verſification, or countenance it by his example. At leaſt there is nothing remaining of him to ſhow that he ever practiſed it. There have attempts been made ſince to the ſame purpoſe by Milton, and ſome later authors. But there never was any thing ſeen ſo ungraceful or ſo deſpicably pedantic, as all eſſays of that kind which have hitherto appeared. I do not know that it has ever yet been tried, except by Milton in ſome parts of his Sampſon; but of all the Greek or Latin meaſures, the Iambic ſeems the moſt capable of being adopted into the Engliſh poetry.

I have either heard or read, that a poet of the laſt century, whom I ſhall not name, becauſe I am not perfectly ſure of the fact, pretended to ſome ſecrets, in verſification, which he did not chooſe to communicate. If it was ſo, it ſhowed a jealouſy unworthy of ſo great a maſter of numbers: he might ſafely enough, for his own ſuperiority, have publiſhed thoſe ſecrets, whatever they were; for it is impoſſible they could ever be of much uſe. He could eaſily adviſe you to vary your pauſes, and tell you which are the moſt graceful: but theſe, and all ſuch precepts, are nothing to the purpoſe; a good ear will naturally produce harmony without the leaſt regard or attention to rules; and there is no cure for a bad one. The only way to improve the ear, whether good or bad, is to accuſtom it to the moſt harmonious writing.

Blank verſe admits of a greater variety of pauſes than rhyme, and is partly for that reaſon the fitteſt for works of any conſiderable length. But in Engliſh poetry, I queſtion whether it is poſſible, with any ſucceſs, to write odes, epiſtles, elegies, paſtorals, or ſatires, without rhyme. And it happens luckily, that in theſe ſhort pieces the ear has not time to be tired with the return of the chimes: which, in my humble opinion, had better ſometimes play a little falſe to one another, than to be for ever ſcrupulouſly exact, provided ſuch licences never ſhock the ear.

It does not require a very exquiſite ear to write too ſmooth, or even harmonious lines running; yet in rhyme, a poet, who is always very careful to poliſh his couplet, may paſs with the multitude for a great maſter in verſification. But as long as his harmony is confined within ſuch narrow bounds, he writes but like a ſchool boy, who keeps in the line only with the help of ruled paper.

Dr Swift and Mr Pope took offence, one does not know why, at the triplet, and very rarely condeſcended to admit it into their verſe. It is true, it had been uſed to a nauſeous exceſs by ſome taſteleſs writers; and Mr Pope's own imitation of Rocheſter, might juſtly enough give him a diſguſt to the triplet for his whole life. Yet it contributes not a little to the grace of Dryden's verſification; and I can ſee no reaſon why it ſhould be prohibited now; as it gives a variety to the numbers, which in rhyme is ſufficiently limited to require ſuch a help.

It does not ſeem quite foreign to the preſent ſubject to take ſome notice of Voltaire, who after having given it as his opinion, that Mr Pope is the moſt harmonious of all the Engliſh poets, adds, with a very plauſible aſſurance, that he has reduced the ſharp hiſſings of the Engliſh trumpet to the ſweet ſounds of the flute. It is no great wonder, that one who is apt to write much at random, ſhould preſume to talk ſo contemptuouſly of a manly, and elegant and harmonious language, with which he plainly appears to have but a very ſuperficial acquaintance. But who ever talked before of the *hiſſings* of a *trumpet*, or of *ſharp hiſſings?* We have all heard of the *hoarſe* trumpet, but the *hiſſing* trumpet is an inſtrument we are not yet acquainted with. However, to paſs theſe little improprieties, this compliment to Pope ſhews how well our critic is qualified to pronounce ſentence upon the Engliſh poets. No one is more ſenſible than I am of Mr Pope's merit; but his blindeſt admirer might ſtartle at the preference beſtowed upon him here. For, not to mention the great names of Spenſer, Shakeſpeare, and Milton, upon ſuch an occaſion, let us only compare Pope in this point of view, with a writer upon whom, as they ſay, he formed himſelf, and whom not only in his own opinion, but in that of many others, he is thought to have excelled in the art of verſifying.

It is almoſt needleſs, after this, to ſay I mean Dryden, whoſe verſification I take to be the moſt muſical that has yet appeared in rhyme. Round, ſweet, pompous, ſpirited, and various; it flows with ſuch a happy volubility, ſuch animated and maſterly negligence, as I am afraid will not ſoon be excelled.

THE PROBABLE HISTORY OF KING ARTHUR.

[*From Mr Turner's History of the Anglo-Saxons.*]

AMONG the defenders of Britain, one proud name exiſts, which is more familiar to mankind than any other, and which has too long engroſſed attention to be haſtily paſſed over. Into ſuch a gigantic port has Arthur been magnified, that he beſtrides Europe, and by his immeaſurable greatneſs almoſt defies our comprehenſion. The glance of man cannot traverſe the endleſs coloſſus, by magic firſt gifted with life, and by death not ſhrouded from the conſcious world, but extolled into a glaring phantom, whoſe ſword reached from Scandinavia to Spain, and before whom all the monarchs of the eaſt and weſt, with their defeated armies and ſubjected nations, fell humbly proſtrate.

Yet however diſtorted by his diſproportionate magnitude, the diſtinguiſhed rank which Arthur has for ages occupied in the ſongs and tales, not only of his own friends and their dependants, but of his neighbours and enemies, forbids us to ſuffer him to ſleep forgotten in his Avallonian tomb. Was it to be expunged from paſt exiſtence, as well as from memory, that he and his proud kingdom filled England, Scotland, France, and Denmark with their triumphs, and Caerleon with philoſophers? For this did the kings of Greece and Africa, of Spain and Parthia, of Phrygia and Egypt, of Iturea and Babylon, march in union with the Roman generals to be deſtroyed by his caliburno, which no armour could reſiſt? For this did he proſtrate eight hundred and forty enemies in one battle with his ſingle arm? For this did Merlin conſtruct that enchanted table, which the glory of its order has ſo renowned; which three great cities in Britain witneſſed (though an invidious neighbour tranſfers it to Charlemagne) and preſent him with that ſteely dragon which breathed in flames from his fearful ſtandard? For this did the compaſſionate Morgana tranſport, by her fairy power, the hero, dying by treachery, into the iſland of Avallonia to heal his wounds, monopolize his attentions, and in ſome future age reſtore him to the world? Awake ye heroes who have ſo long vibrated on the harps of Cambria and Bretagne, ſound fiercely your buffalo horns, and paſs once more before us in review—

The authentic actions of Arthur have been ſo diſfigured by the gorgeous additions of the minſtrels and of Jeffry, that many writers have denied that he ever lived; but this is an extreme as wild as the romances which occaſioned it. His exiſtence is teſtified by his contemporaries, whoſe genius has ſurvived the ruin of twelve centuries; and the Britiſh bards are a body of men too illuſtrious for their perſonal merit and wonderful inſtitution to be diſcredited when they atteſt. The tales, that all human perfection was collected in Arthur; that giants and kings who never exiſted, and nations which he never ſaw, were ſubdued by him; that he went to Jeruſalem for the ſacred croſs; or that he not only excelled the experienced paſt, but alſo the poſſible future, we may, if we pleaſe, recollect only to deſpiſe: but when all the fictions are removed,

removed, and thoſe incidents only are retained which the ſober criticiſm of hiſtory ſanctions with its approbation, a fame ample enough to intereſt the judicious, and to perpetuate his honorable memory, will ſtill continue to bloom.

We are not yet empowered to point out the exact province from which Arthur emerged. We hear of two kings of Gwent in the ſixth century of the name of *Arthrius*; but whether either of theſe was the conqueror of the Saxons, or whether his reputation had occaſioned others to impoſe the name on their children, or whether it be the ſame name, is uncertain. It is affirmed that Noe, ſon of an Arthur, gave Llandilovawr to the church. If this was a child of the celebrated Arthur, his donation announces a ſovereignty in Carmarthenſhire: but in theſe days of confuſion, when chieftains fled from one country to another, we cannot infer the firſt reſidence of the father from the ſituation of his children. When Melva, king of Somerſetſhire, deprived him of his wife, he appeared at the head of the men of Cornwall and Devon: when he gave his ſplendid feaſt, after his victory over the Saxons, Caerleon on the Uſk was the ſcene of the carouſal. Theſe incidents ſeem to ſtation him in various places, and forbid us to decide poſitively in favour of either.

The chronology of his firſt appearance is alſo undetermined. We may chooſe the period which ſeems to us moſt probable, but we have no right to force it on the belief of others. The æra which we ſhould prefer would be one which did not precede 528. On ſuch a ſubject it would be ludicrous to attempt preciſion.

In 519, Cerdic obtained the deciſive victory at Chardford, which eſtabliſhed him in the ſovereignty of Weſſex. With whom he fought we know not. It is 527 before another ſtruggle occurred, and this was fought at Charděſley, in Bucks. We may concede the command of the Britons to Arthur if we pleaſe; but we cannot, if rigidly interrogated, produce evidence of the fact.

In 530, if that was the particular year in which Geraint fell, we can authenticate his preſence in the battle of Llongborth. We have already intimated another battle on the Llawen, in which Arthur alſo ſeems to have been the general. He may have fought the twelve battles mentioned by Nennius; but it is not beyond the rules of fair criticiſm to doubt if they were all directed againſt the Anglo-Saxons. We know that a part of Arthur's valour was exerted againſt his ambitious competitors: he once led on the warriors of Cornwall and Devon againſt the king of Somerſetſhire, and he is alſo declared to have maintained a war in the north againſt a Britiſh prince. Huel, the brother of Gildas Albanius, would not ſubmit to the dominion of Arthur. A vigorous war deſtroyed the refractory chief, and Arthur rejoiced that his moſt formidable enemy was no more.

Four of the twelve battles have been ably illuſtrated by Mr Whitaker. Mr Camden and others had remarked, that the Douglas, on which Nennius had placed them, was a river in Lancaſhire. The hiſtorian of Manchester has commented on the poſitions of theſe conflicts with great local knowledge: his fancy, though often too prolific, and even on this portion of our hiſtory brilliantly active, yet deſcribes theſe with ſo much probability, that we may adopt his ſketches as hiſtory.

The battle of Badon Mount has been celebrated as his greateſt and moſt uſeful atchievement: a long interval of repoſe to the Britons has been announced as its conſequence; yet it is curious to remark, that this mighty victory only checked the progreſs of Cerdic, and does not appear to have produced any further ſucceſs.

We hear not of the vindictive purſuit of Arthur, of the invaſion of Hampſhire, or the danger of Cerdic. The Saxon was penetrating onward even toward Wales or Mercia: he was deſeated, and did not advance. No other conflicts enſued. Arthur was content to repulſe. This muſt have been becauſe he wanted power to purſue. Arthur was, therefore, not the warrior of irreſiſtible ſtrength: he permitted Cerdic to retain his ſettlements at Weſſex, and ſuch an acquieſcence accredits the chronicle, which aſſerts, that after many fierce conflicts, he conceded to the Saxon, the counties of Southampton and Somerſet.

This ſtate of moderate greatneſs ſuits the character in which the Welſh bards exhibit Arthur: they commemorate him, but it is not with that excelling glory with which he has been ſurrounded by ſubſequent traditions. The ſong ſometimes ſwells with the actions of a warrior: but it was an age of warriors, and Urien of Reged ſeems to have employed the harp more than Arthur. Lywarch the aged, who lived through the whole period of ſlaughter, and had been one of the gueſts and counſellors of Arthur, yet diſplays him not in tranſcendent majeſty. In the battle of Llongborth, which Arthur directed, it was the valour of Geriant that arreſted the bard's notice: and his elegy, though long, ſcarcely mentions the commander, whoſe merit, in the frenzy of later fablers, clouds every other. As his poem was a gift to the dead, it may be ſuppoſed to poſſeſs leſs of flattery and more of truth in its panegyric; it ſpeaks of Arthur with reſpect, but not with wonder: Arthur is ſimply mentioned as the commander and the conductor of the toil of war, but Geraint is profuſely celebrated.

In the ſame manner Arthur appears in the Aſcllanau of Myrzin: he is mentioned as a character well known, but not idolized: yet he was then dead, and all the actions of his patriotiſm and valour had been performed; not a ſingle epithet is added, from which we can diſcern him to have been that whirlwind of war, which ſwept away in its courſe all the ſkill and armies of Europe. That he was a courageous warrior is unqueſtionable; but that he was the miraculous Mars of the Britiſh hiſtory, from whom kings and nations ſunk in panic, is completely diſproved by the temperate encomiums of his contemporary bards.

One fact is ſufficient to refute all the hyperboles of Jeffry. Though Arthur lived and fought, yet the Anglo-Saxons were not driven from the iſland, but gradually advanced their conqueſts, with progreſſive dominion, whether he was alive, or whether he was dead. Reflecting on this unqueſtionable fact, we may heſitate to believe that Arthur was victorious in all his battles, becauſe, if he weilded the whole force of Britain, and only fought to conquer, what reſcued Cerdic, Ella, the ſon of Hengiſt, and the invaders of Eſſex and Eaſt Anglia, from abſolute deſtruction?

Yet, on peruſing the Britiſh Triades, we diſcover ſome traits which raiſe Arthur above the ſituation of a provincial chieftain. They give him three chief palaces, and the poſitions of theſe imply a ſovereignty on the weſtern part of the iſland from Cornwall to Scotland. His court ſeems to have been ſomewhat extraordinary, becauſe we read of its three golden-tongued knights, its three free and diſcontented gueſts, its three undaunted chiefs, his three knight-counſellors, his three compeers; all theſe expreſſions indicate a prince of peculiar power and diſtinction, and on connecting theſe with the number and ſituation of his palaces, a prince of conſiderable dignity riſes to our view.

Two circumſtances will render this ag-

aggrandizement more intelligible. Firſt, the progreſs of the Anglo-Saxons muſt have materially affected the multiplicity of ſovereignties which had divided Britain. Wherever they advanced, the petty principalities muſt have been deſtroyed, and if compelled to a retrogade movement, the diſtricts obtained from them would become the property of their conqueror. Thus, by deſtroying the other kingdoms of the Saxons, the Danes produced the monarchy of Alfred; and thus the Saxons, by the inevitable ſlaughter even of battles in which they were beaten, as well as by the progreſs of their conqueſt, left many diſtricts without a ruler. Secondly, under Arthur, as afterward under Urien, the Britons confederated, and of theſe combinations Arthur was the choſen general. Nennius mentions that he marched with the king of the Britons; the Welſh chronology, that he, with the elders, fought the battle of Badon. Arthur was therefore raiſed to a great military preponderance, and as the Britiſh chieftains periſhed in the furious warfare, he may have poſſeſſed himſelf of the territories they left. That he was careful to accumulate dominion appears from his war with Huel. It was, indeed, an age of ambitious competition, and the power with which the command of the military forces of Britain inveſted him, would enable him to aſſert his will with ſucceſs, whenever rivalſhip oppoſed.

Hence, whatever was Arthur's original dignity, the revolutions of this unfortunate period tended to throw into his poſſeſſion a great aggregation of power. His victories againſt the common enemy would favour his acquiſition of dominion. Arthur may be therefore contemplated as a chief, elevated by his own abilities and ſucceſs into a king of power; not of the overwhelming might of an Oroondates, or an Alexander, but of power ſufficient to withſtand the Saxons, and to ſupport his competitors.

Twenty-two years are calculated to have intervened between the battle of Bath, in which he checked the ſtream of the Saxon conqueſt, and that fatal period, in which he was torn from his lamenting friends by domeſtic treachery and civil rebellion. This cataſtrophe was produced by the infidelity of his queen Gwenhyfar, and the hoſtility of Medrawd, his nephew. As Medrawd was able to defy the vengeance of the potent Arthur, and even to meet him in battle, we may ſuſpect that chieftains, jealous of Arthur's authority, ſupported the rebellion. Some authors intimate, that, to obtain the aid or neutrality of the Weſt Saxons, Medrawd gave them ſeveral provinces in their vicinity. As uſurped power always ſeeks to maintain itſelf by crimes, and abſurdly hopes to obtain from new tranſgreſſions, that impunity which it can never find, Medrawd may have ſacrificed his country to revenge; but all who love truth in hiſtory will tread lightly and cautiouſly over theſe events, and not bring any incident too ſtrongly into notice.

Camlan was the ſcene of that diſaſtrous conflict, in which Medrawd dared to meet his injured uncle with the ſword of revolt, and to conſummate the crime of inceſt by murder. Two days the battle laſted. The poem of Myrzin adds, that ſeven only eſcaped from the ſlaughter. We may interpret this of chiefs, or officers. The traitor fell, but Arthur alſo received a mortal wound. From the coaſt of Cornwall he was conveyed into Somerſetſhire. Sailing along the ſhore they reached the Uzzella, which they aſcended, and the king was committed to the care of his friends in Glaſtonbury, but their ſkill could not avert the fatal hour.

The grave of Arthur was the myſtery of the world; his death was con-

concealed, and a wild tale was diffuſed among the populace, that he had withdrawn from the world into ſome magical region, from which, at a future criſis, he was to re-appear, and to lead the Cynmry in triumph through the iſland. Why this fiction was invented we may now enquire in vain. It could not repreſs the ambition of the Saxons, becauſe the temporary abſence of Arthur was ſufficient to favour their wiſhes; and if his living authority could not prevent Britiſh inſurrection, was it probable that his reſidence in another region would avail; yet Talieſſin induſtriouſly ſang, that Morgana promiſed, if he remained a long time with her, to heal his wounds: and it is notorious, that the return of Arthur was a fond hope of the people for many ages. Perhaps it was an illuſion deviſed to avert the popular vengeance from thoſe who, by aiding Medrawd, had contributed to produce the lamented event: perhaps the kings, inculpated by Gildas, had participated in the rebellion; or, perhaps ſome, affecting to reign in truſt for Arthur, conciliated the public prejudice in favour of their government, by thus repreſenting that they governed only for him.

Of the family of Arthur we know little: we hear of Noe in Carmarthenſhire, reputed to be his ſon, another ſon, Llechan, is celebrated as an accompliſhed warrior. His ſiſter Anna married Llew, brother of the famous Urien, and ſon of Cynvarch: the traitor Medrawd was her ſon. The marriage of Anna united the kings of the northern Britons in conſanguinity with Arthur; but this connection, inſtead of cementing the bond of patriotiſm, by the addition of relationſhip, ultimately deſtroyed the great bulwark of the iſland.

But though the friends of Arthur concealed the place of his interment, a future age diſcovered it. In the year 1189, when romance had begun to magnify his fame, his body was diligently ſought for in the abbey of Glaſtonbury. Henry de Soili, the abbot, at the ſolicitation of Henry II. and others, proſecuted the ſearch. The king had often told him, that he had heard from the Welſh bards, that Arthur lay buried between two pyramids, very deep. The monaſtery contained two ſtone pillars, with many inſcriptions, illegible from the injuries of time, and the antiquity of the writing. The ground between theſe was dug to a great depth, and about ſeven feet below the ſurface a leaden croſs was found under a ſtone, with the inſcription. 'Hic jacet ſepultus inclitus rex Arthurus in inſula Avallonia.' The abbot preſented the croſs, and Giraldus read the inſcription. Nine feet below this, the remains of Arthur appeared incloſed in oak: of this formidable warrior nothing but duſt and bones were viſible. Some yellow female hair indicated that his ſecond wife had lain near him.

The bones of Arthur were as extraordinary as his reputed actions: an eyewitneſs declares, that the abbot applied the *tibia*, or leg-bone, to the leg of the talleſt man then preſent, and that it roſe three fingers breadth above his knee. His ſcull was equally prodigious; the ſpace of a hand expanded between the bones which had been covered by his eyebrows. Ten wounds marked the head, which had concreted into ſcars, except one that diſplayed an uncloſed chaſm, the avenue of fate.

The revered relics of this hero were re-interred with magnificence. His ſword, his caliburno, as a precious gift, was preſented by Richard the firſt to the king of Sicily, and his crown was taken away by Edward from Caernarvon. The publication of Jeffry's Britiſh Hiſtory, an interpolated tranſlation of the compoſition of Tyſſilio, diffuſed the fame of Arthur with new

but

but extravagant ſplendour through England, through Europe, and the world. By doing Arthur this juſtice, he ſaved nature ſome trouble, for 'had men been ſilent about Arthur, the mountains, rocks, and ſtones of Wales, would have been perpetually proclaiming his name. Such is the inſeparable attachment of glory to virtue.'

ANECDOTES OF MIRABEAU AND LA FAYETTE.

[*From M. Bertrand de Moleville's Annals of the French Revolution.*]

'I KNEW M. de Mirabeau,' ſays M. Malouet, 'only by his character, from which I was greatly inclined to ſhun him. We took different ſides from the firſt ſittings of the (national) aſſembly, and I little expected to be ſought for by him, when M. du Roverai, with whom I was acquainted at Geneva, and who was then at Verſailles, told me from him, that he wiſhed very much to confer with me. I accepted an appointment at M. du Roverai's, where I found another perſon from Geneva, a M. Dumons. This was in the end of May 1789. My diſtruſt of M. de Mirabeau, kept pace with my prepoſſeſſion againſt him. I conſidered him as one of the moſt dangerous innovators, and was very much aſtoniſhed at the manner in which he accoſted me. 'I have been anxious,' ſaid he, 'for an explanation with you, becauſe in ſpite of your moderation I diſcover you to be a friend of liberty; and I am, perhaps, more alarmed than you at the ferment I ſee in the minds of men, and at the miſchiefs that may flow from it. I am not a perſon to ſell myſelf baſely to deſpotiſm; I wiſh for a free but monarchical conſtitution. I am not for ſhaking the monarchy; and if meaſures be not ſpeedily taken, the very bad heads, the great inexperience and arrogance which I perceive in our aſſembly, and the inconſiderate reſiſtance and provocation given by the two firſt orders (the nobility and clergy) make me fear as much as you that there will be dreadful commotions. I therefore addreſs myſelf to you as an honeſt man. You are connected with Mr Neckar and M. de Montmorin; you muſt know their intentions, and whether they have a plan or not. If they have a reaſonable plan, I will ſupport it.' This declaration made a great impreſſion upon me, and it was ſufficiently rational for me to believe it ſincere: Mirabeau's intellects were ſound; he did not chooſe miſchief for miſchief's ſake. Upon ſeveral important queſtions, and particularly upon the conſtitution of the commons, in a national aſſembly, his opinions were ſeen to be monarchical. I yielded to this explanation with a kind of confidence: I told him frankly that I thought as he did; that I had no doubt of the neceſſity for a plan of reform, and of a conſtitution that might ſatisfy the reaſonable expectations of the nation—but that I did not know, and very much doubted, whether or not the miniſters had any determined plan; that the heſitation I had perceived in them had alarmed me, as much as the arrogance of many of my colleagues.

'Well,' ſaid he, 'will you propoſe to them, to ſee and confer with me?'

'I conſented, and informed Mr Neckar and M. de Montmorin of the reſult of my converſation. I found them both extremely averſe to any intercourſe with Mirabeau, from his immorality, his character, and the little confidence he merited. I contended againſt all theſe objections: I repreſented, that the man who with great talents announced honeſt views; who, notwithſtanding his immorality, did

did not appear to have yet engaged in any party, and would give great weight to that which he ſhould embrace; and who, far from offering himſelf to be a corrupt tool, explained himſelf in ſuch a manner that it was impoſſible to propoſe to him any ſort of conditions, or fictitious part, deſerved to be heard. It was agreed that Mr Neckar ſhould receive him the next day, and the conference took place. But Mirabeau expected they would open themſelves to him, whereas they had only conſented to hear what he had to ſay. He waited for the communication of a plan, and it is probable that they had not one to communicate. The conference accordingly was dry and ſhort: he went away diſcontented, and ſaid to me, as he came into the hall, *I go there no more, but they ſhall hear of me*; and he has been but too true to his word. There ended our intercourſe, and I was two years without ſpeaking to him.'

Early plunged by the violence of his paſſions, and by the uncommon vigour of his conſtitution, into all manner of exceſs, Mirabeau had ſhaken off the yoke of principles, and had ſubſtituted in their place ſyſtems ever dependent, as to his conduct, on the ſordid calculations of intereſt. His long and frequent impriſonments had conſiderably ſoured and hardened his diſpoſition, and in the courſe of them he had alſo acquired the habit of reflecting deeply, of conſidering a queſtion under all its points of view, and of ſupporting with equal ſtrength the affirmative or negative; whence that readineſs, that ſuperiority in reply, which gave him an immenſe advantage over all his opponents. Unfortunately, the beſt cauſe was always in his opinion that for which he was beſt paid, and his eloquence at the ſervice of the higheſt bidder. He has been unjuſtly accuſed of cowardice; on ſeveral occaſions, when his life only was at ſtake, he has given unequivocal proofs of courage. But he was often daſtardly through avarice or vanity: there was no inſult, however ſerious, which he could not bear when he had a large ſum to receive, or an important ſpeech to deliver in the aſſembly next day; and it ſeldom happened but that one or other of theſe was the caſe. Being a royaliſt on conviction, he would have ſupported the throne very powerfully, had not Mr Neckar ſcrupled to purchaſe his ſervices; and it was not till he refuſed them, that he offered them to the democratic party, who paid much more for them than he would have got from the court.

Mirabeau was far from being the author of all the ſpeeches he delivered from the tribune. His attendance at the aſſembly, and the parties of pleaſure, or rather of immoderate debauch, in which he was perpetually engaged, left him no time to write them, even had his head been ſufficiently at liberty to compoſe them. He had at command a certain number of writers, of more wit than fortune, who, flattered by his patronage, encouraged by his promiſes, and aſſiſted at times by trifling ſums from his purſe, did themſelves the honour of working for him. He received them at his houſe at different hours, and employed them all unknown to one another; telling each, under the ſeal of ſecrecy, that he purpoſed to make a motion of ſuch a nature, but that he had ſo little time to beſtow upon thinking of it, that it would be doing him a real friendſhip to give him ſome ideas, ſome notes which he might make uſe of, and that he had thought of him for ſuch aſſiſtance. There was not one of them but went inſtantly to work as hard as he could, to juſtify the confidence of a man ſo celebrated as Mirabeau. When they had all ſent in their work, he ſelected the beſt paſſages of each, forming a whole out of them, which he arranged and enriched

enriched in his manner with ſome pompous phraſes, and then ſet out for the aſſembly. His fellow-labourers, who got there before him, recognized each the particular paſſage he had furniſhed him with, admired in ſecret the advantage he had drawn from it, and never doubted that all the reſt of the ſpeech was his own compoſition: they wondered at his being able to produce ſo fine an oration in ſo ſhort a time, and left the hall, convinced that no man had more talents than Mirabeau. And there is no doubt in fact, that he was very able, without the aſſiſtance of any body, to make as good ſpeeches as thoſe he thus patched up: but he had a rarer talent, and the moſt uſeful to a ſtateſmen, that of appreciating the talents of others, and extracting the greateſt poſſible advantage from them. Charlemagne could hardly ſign his name, and cardinal Richelieu was an indifferent writer; yet the one was the greateſt king, and the other the ableſt miniſter France ever had.

It was impoſſible, in fact, that there could be the ſlighteſt degree of intelligence between two men, who ſo cordially deteſted, while they thought they deſpiſed each other. Had they not been divided irrevocably by their conſtant rivalry in ambition and popularity, they muſt neceſſarily have been ſo by the immenſe diſtance at which they were placed, by the difference of their character and genius, if however we may call the petty faculties of M. de la Fayette, by the name of genius.

In an interview between them, which had been brought about by their mutual friends to reconcile them, Mirabeau having for the execution of ſome plan propoſed means of a violent nature, M. de la Fayette ſtarted, and exclaimed; 'Nay, M. de Mirabeau, it is impoſſible that a man of honour can employ ſuch means.' 'A man of honour!' replied Mirabeau: 'Ah! M. de la Fayette, I ſee that you would be a *Grandiſon Cromwell.* You will ſee where ſuch a mixture will lead you.'—Another time, upon a ſimilar occaſion, M. de la Fayette complaining bitterly of the atrocious projects which were formed againſt him by his enemies, and by Mirabeau himſelf, the latter called upon him to explain. 'Well, then, replied M. de la Fayette, 'I will tell you, ſince you force me to it, that I was thoroughly acquainted with your intention of having me aſſaſſinated.'—'I, Sir?'—'Yes, Sir, in ſuch a place, on ſuch a day, at ſuch an hour; I was ſure of it.'—'You were ſure of it!—You were ſure of it, M. de la Fayette! and I ſtill alive!—What a good creature you are! And you think of taking the leading parts in a Revolution!'

Mirabeau poſſeſſed ſo robuſt a conſtitution, ſuch extraordinary ſtrength, that it was very generally ſuſpected he had been poiſoned. But he was opened, in preſence of ſeveral of the faculty, by his own phyſician, who was affectionately attached to him, and not the ſlighteſt appearance of poiſon was perceived. For near a month before, his health, which he never took care of, had been much impaired by frequent attacks of the colic, and the diſorder that proved fatal was the natural and immediate conſequence of a debauch, which he had carried to the greateſt exceſs.

Thus died this man, who was poſſeſſed of qualities doubtleſs very rare, but the moſt fatal when not the moſt valuable. He had ſufficient energy, ſufficient ambition, and more talents than neceſſary to fill the higheſt offices with great eminence; in a word, to be a Great Man, if the violence of his paſſions and his love of money, had not always rendered him a contemptible one, and often a raſcal. It would be very difficult to ſelect a ſingle period of his life, free from errors or crimes. If he had not died ſo ſoon, he might, by important ſervi-

ces,

ces, have repaired a part of the miſchief he had done; he might perhaps have ſaved the monarchy: but Providence, who ſometimes ſuffers the wicked to triumph and to oppreſs virtue, very rarely permits the ignominious path of wickedneſs to lead to that of real glory.

ON THE SPIRIT OF CHIVALRY IN EUROPE.

[*From Herder's 'Philoſophy of Hiſtory.'*]

ALL the Germanic tribes, that ſpread themſelves over Europe, conſiſted of warriors: and as the moſt arduous part of military ſervice fell upon the cavalry, it was natural, that theſe ſhould amply recompenſe themſelves for their ſkill in equeſtrian accompliſhments. Accordingly, a fraternity of horſemen ſoon aroſe, who learned their art in due form; and as theſe were the attendants of the commander, duke, or king, a ſort of military ſchool was eſtabliſhed where the court reſided, in which the bachelor knights ſerved their apprenticeſhip. When this was accompliſhed, it is probable, that they were ſent in queſt of adventures, as the means of rendering them perfect in their trade; and, having well approved themſelves on this trial, continued to ſerve as maſters of their craft, to the privileges of which they were admitted, or as teachers to inſtruct others in thoſe arts, which themſelves had learned. It is ſcarcely poſſible, that the order of chivalry ſhould have had any other origin. The Germanic nations, who carried the corporation ſpirit into every thing, muſt have applied it particularly to an art familiar to themſelves alone: and as this was their grand and ſole art, they naturally conferred upon it all the honour, which they were too ignorant to beſtow on any other. All the laws and regulations of chivalry may be deduced from this origin.

This company of horſemen being trained for the ſervice of the prince, the firſt duty incumbent both on the bachelor and the knight was, to ſwear fealty to him. Horſemanſhip and the uſe of weapons were the exerciſes of their ſchool; whence tilts and tournaments, with other knightly ſports, as they were called, afterward aroſe. At court the young cavalier was to be about the perſon of the prince and his conſort, to be ready for courtly ſervices: hence the duty of *courteſy* toward princes and ladies, which he learned as a trade. And as, beſide his horſe and his arms, a little religion and favour with the ladies were neceſſary for him, he acquired the former from a ſhort breviary, and obtained the latter as he could, according to his abilities and the faſhion of the times. Thus originated chivalry, conſiſting of a blind faith in religion, a blind ſubmiſſion to the will of the prince, provided he required nothing inconſiſtent with the principles of the confraternity, courteouſneſs in ſervice, and gallantry toward the ladies: if a knight poſſeſſed theſe virtues, no matter whether his head contained a ſingle idea, his heart a ſingle ſentiment beſides. The lower claſſes were not his equals: the knowledge of the mechanic, the artiſt, or the man of learning, he, as a ſoldier and accompliſhed knight, could deſpiſe.

It is obvious, that this military trade muſt degenerate into unbridled barbariſm, as ſoon as it became an hereditary right, and the genuine, thorough knight, was a noble in his very cradle. Sagacious princes, who ſupported ſuch an idle train about their courts, paid conſiderable attention to the improvement of this calling, by inſtilling into the minds of the noble maſters ſome few ideas, and giving them morals, for the ſecurity of

of their own court, family, and country. Hence the ſevere laws by which every act of baſeneſs was ſubjected to penalties among them: hence the noble duties of ſuccouring the oppreſſed, protecting virgin innocence, treating enemies with magnanimity, and the like; the deſign of which was to obviate their burſts of violence, to temper the rudeneſs and barbarity of their manners. Theſe laws of the order were not to be obliterated from the virtuous mind, on which they had been impreſſed from the earlieſt infancy; ſo that the probity and faith almoſt mechanically diſplayed in word and deed, by every worthy knight, aſtoniſh us. Pliability of character, facility of placing a queſtion in every point of view, and fertility of ideas, were not their failings; hence the language of the middle ages was ſo ceremonious, ſtiff, and formal, that it ſeems to move as it were capariſoned in ſteel, round two or three thoughts, in all the pomp of knighthood.

Cauſes, from two extremities of the earth, concurred to give this body of chivalry more life and motion: Spain, France, England, and Italy, but principally France, were the places where it received its chief refinements.

1. The national character and country of the Arabs rendered a kind of knight-errantry, mixed with the tenderneſs of love, ſomewhat like hereditary property to them, from the earlieſt times. They went in queſt of adventures; fought ſingle combats; and waſhed out the ſtain of every diſgrace, thrown on themſelves, or their tribe, with the blood of their enemy. Accuſtomed to hard fare and ſlight clothing, their horſe, their ſword, and the honour of their race, were dear to them above all things. And as while roaming with their tents they ſought love-adventures, and then breathed out complaints of the abſence of the object of their paſſion; in their much valued poetical language; their ſongs very ſoon fell into the regular train of chaunting their prophet, themſelves, the honours of their race, and the praiſes of their miſtreſs, without much attention to the aptneſs of tranſition. On their expeditions of conqueſt the tents of the women were intermingled with theirs: the moſt courageous animated them in battle, and in return the ſpoils of the victory were laid at their feet. And as for the time of Mohammed, the influence of the women in the formation of the Arabian empire had been great, and the orientals had no enjoyments in a period of peace, except games of paſtime, or amuſing themſelves among the women; the feſtivities of chivalry, as throwing the javelin at the ring, and other conteſts, within liſts, in the preſence of the ladies, were celebrated with great ſplendour and magnificence in Spain, during the government of the Arabs. The fair dames encouraged the champions, and rewarded them with jewels, ſcarves, or garments worked with their own hands, for theſe feſtivals were held in honour of them, and the portrait of the conqueror's miſtreſs was hung up to view, ſurrounded by the portraits of the knights he had overcome. The competitors were divided into bands, diſtinguiſhed by their colours, devices, and garments; poems were ſung in honour of the feaſt; and the thanks of love were the victor's nobleſt reward. Thus the more refined cuſtoms of chivalry, were evidently brought into Europe by the Arabs: what with the heavy-armed heroes of the north, remained only profeſſional manners, or mere fiction, were with theſe, nature, light play, ſportive exerciſe.

Thus the gayer ſpirit of chivalry was firſt introduced among the Chriſtians in Spain, where the Arabs and Goths lived together for centuries. Here we not only diſcover the moſt ancient Chriſtian orders, eſtabliſhed either

either for the purpoſe of oppoſing the moors, for protecting pilgrims on their journies to Compoſtelle, or for pleaſure and amuſement; but the ſpirit of chivalry was ſo deeply imprinted in the character of the Spaniards, that even knight-errant, and chevaliers of love, perfectly in the Arabian ſtyle, were not with them mere creatures of the imagination. The *romaunt*, or hiſtorical poem, particularly as dedicated to the adventurers of love and chivalry; and probably the romance, as the old Amadis, and others; were the offspring of their language and way of thinking, in which Cervantes found in latter days the materials for that incomparable national romance, Don Quixote de la Mancha.

But their influence was more eminently diſplayed in the lighter poetry, both here and in Sicily, the two countries of which the Arabs longeſt maintained poſſeſſion. For in the land, extending to the Ebro, which Charlemagne conquered from the Arabs, and peopled with Limoſins, or the inhabitants of the ſouth of France, the firſt poetry among the vernacular languages of Europe, the *provençal* or *limoſin*, gradually formed itſelf, on either ſide the Pyrenees, in the neighbourhood of the Arabs. Tenzonets, ſonnets, idyls, villaneſcas, ſirventes, madrigals, canzonets, and other forms, invented for witty queſtions, dialogues, and envelops of amorous ſubjects, gave occaſion, as every thing in Europe muſt aſſume the court or corporation form, to a ſingular tribunal, the court of love, in which ladies and knights, princes and kings, were concerned as judges and parties. Before it was formed the *gaya ciencia*, the ſcience of the troubadours; firſt the purſuit of the higher nobility, but afterward, being conſidered after the European mode as an amuſement of the court, it fell into the hands of the *contadores*, *truanes*, and *bufones*, the ſtory-tellers, jeſters, and court-buffoons, where it became contemptible.

In its early flouriſhing days the poetry of the provençals had a ſoftly, harmonious, pathetic, and engaging ſtile, which poliſhed the heart and mind, refined the language and manners, and was the general parent of all modern European poetry. The Limoſin language extended itſelf over Languedoc, Provence, Barcelona, Arragon, Valencia, Murcia, Majorca, and Minorca; in theſe charming countries, fanned by the ſea breeze, love breathed its firſt ſigh, love poured the firſt language of delight. The poetry of Spain, France, and Italy, were its daughters: by it Petrarch was tutored, of it he was emolous; our *minneſingers* were its remote and harſh echoes, though the ſofteſt of our language (the German) is unqueſtionably theirs. The univerſally diffuſed ſpirit of chivalry tranſplanted ſome of its flowers from France and Italy into Swabia, Auſtria, and Thuringia; ſome emperors of the Stauſiſh family, and Hermann, landgrave of Thuringia, delighted in it, with more German princes, whoſe names would have ſunk into oblivion, had they not been tranſmitted to poſterity with ſome of their ſongs. The art, however, ſpeedily degenerated, ſinking into the deſpicable trade of vagrant *jongleurs* in France, and *meiſterſingers* in Germany. In languages ſprung like the provençal itſelf from the Latin, and unknown by the name of *Romanſh*, it could take deeper root: producing far more pleaſing fruits as it ſpread from Spain through France and Italy to the iſland of Sicily. In Sicily, as in Spain, aroſe the firſt Italian poetry on what was once Arabian ground.

2. What the Arabs began from the ſouth, the Normans cultivated ſtill more ſtrenuouſly from the north, in France, England, and Italy. When their romantic character, their love of adventures, heroic tales, and martial

tial exercises, and their native respect to the women, united with the refined chivalry of the Arabs, it gained a wider spread, and deeper root in Europe. The tales called romances, the ground work of which existed long before the croisades, now came more into vogue: for all the German nations had ever celebrated the praises of their heroes; and these songs and poems had maintained their ground, even amid the darkest ages, in the courts of the great, nay, in the convents themselves; and in proportion as genuine history declined, men's minds were the more turned to spiritual legends, or romantic stories. Accordingly, from the first ages of Christianity, we find this exercise of the human imagination more employed than any other, first after the African greek manner, latterly after the northern European: monks, bishops, and saints, were not ashamed of it; nay, from their mouths, true history, and the bible itself, spoke the language of romance. Hence arose the suit of Belial against Christ: hence the allegorical and mystical personification of all the virtues and duties: hence the spiritual dramatic moralities and interludes.

Such being the general taste of the times, the offspring of ignorance, superstition, and an awakened fancy, tales and fables were the only food of the human mind, and heroic tales were mostly admired by the equestrian order. In France, the centre of this cultivation, the subjects most peculiar to it were naturally chosen, according to the two streams that united here. The expedition of Charlemagne against the Saracens, with all the adventures said to have happened in the Pyrenees, was one of these; what already existed in the country of the Normans, in Britanny, in the ancient stories of King Arthur, was the other. Into this were introduced, from the more recent French constitution, the twelve peers, with all the splendour of Charles and his knights, and all the savage deeds they had to tell of the Saracen heroes. Ogier, the Dane, Huon of Bordeaux, the children of Arinon, and various stories of the pilgrims and croisaders, entered likewise into this: but the most interesting persons and events were always borrowed from the country of the Provençals, Guienne, Languedoc, Provence, and that part of Spain, where the Limosin poetry flourished. The second stream, the tales of Arthur and his court, came over the sea from Cornwall, or rather from an Utopian land, where men indulged in a peculiar species of the wonderful. The mirror of knighthood was brightly polished in these romances; the vices and virtues of this court were clearly exhibited in the various characters of the knights of the round table: for which there was ample room in the unbounded domains of the romance of Arthur, and in such ancient times.

At length from these two branches of romance issued a third, which excluded no French or Spanish province. Poitou, Champagne, Normandy, the forest of Ardennes, Flanders, nay, Mentz, Castile, and Algarva, furnished knights and scenes to the drama: for the ignorance of the times, and the form in which the histories of antiquity then appeared, permitted, or rather urged this jumble of all ages and countries. Troy and Greece, Jerusalem and Trebisond, what was known of old, and what report just bruited about, united in the garland of chivalry: and above all the claim to a descent from Trojan blood was a family honour, of which all the nations and empires of Europe, with its greatest knights and potentates, were firmly persuaded. With the Normans romance passed into England and Sicily; each country afforded it new heroes and new materials; but no where did it flourish as in France. From the

coaleſcence of various cauſes, this taſte formed the way of life, language, poetry, and even religion and morals of men.

Then, if we paſs from the regions of fable into the land of hiſtory, is there a kingdom in Europe, where chivalry has bloſſomed with more elegance than in France? When, after the decline of the Carlovingian race, almoſt as many courts of little potentates, dukes, counts, or barons, ſhone forth in power and ſplendour, as there were provinces, caſtles, and fortreſſes; every palace, every knight's ſeat, was alſo a ſchool of chivalry and honour. The national vivacity of the people; the conteſts they had maintained for centuries againſt the Arabs and Normans; the fame their forefathers had thereby acquired; the flouriſhing ſtate, to which many families had raiſed themſelves; their intermixture with the Normans themſelves; but, eſpecially, that peculiarity in the character of the nation, which diſplays itſelf throughout their whole hiſtory from the days of the Gauls; introduced into chivalry that felicity of expreſſion, that prompt elaſticity, eaſy compliance, and ſparkling grace, which, in any other nation except the French, is to be found but late, or ſeldom, if ever. How many French knights may be named, whoſe ſentiments and actions, in peace and war, throughout the whole hiſtory of France, even down to the times of royal deſpotiſm, diſplay ſo much valour, nobleneſs, and gallantry, that their families will be eternally honoured! When Fame ſounded the trump of the croiſades, the knights of France were the flower of European chivalry: French families wore the diadem of Jeruſalem and Conſtantinople; and the laws of the new ſtate were promulgated in French. The language and manners of France ſeated themſelves on the Britiſh throne, likewiſe, with William the Conqueror: and the two nations emulouſly rivalled each other in the virtues of chivalry, as the plains both of France and Paleſtine witneſſed, till England relinquiſhed to its neighbour the price of empty ſplendour, and choſe the more uſeful career of civil virtues. France firſt braved the power of the pope; and indeed in the eaſieſt way, with a degree of grace: even St Lewis himſelf was far from a ſlave of the holy father. England, Germany, and other countries have had more valiant kings than France; but policy firſt entered France from Italy, and there aſſumed at leaſt the garb of decorum, however diſgraceful her actions. This ſpirit imparted itſelf likewiſe to inſtitutions of learning, magiſterial dignities, and tribunals of juſtice, at firſt to their advantage, afterward to their detriment.

No wonder, then, that the French nation is become the vaineſt in Europe: almoſt from the origin of its monarchy, it has held the lamp to this quarter of the globe, and given it the tone in its moſt important revolutions. When all nations flocked together to Paleſtine, as to a grand carouſal, the German knights were led by their connexion with the French, to lay aſide their teutonic turbulence. *(furor teutonicus.)* The new dreſs, likewiſe, which coats of arms and other marks of diſtinction ſpread over all Europe in the time of the croiſades, was for the moſt part of French origin.

ON THE ANCIENT AND MODERN USE OF GHOSTS.

THE revival of ghoſts in our theatres, is an occurrence of no ſmall importance in the hiſtory of the ſtage, and bids fair to employ our dramatic writers in a new form of compoſition. Theſe ghoſts have, however, come upon us ſo very ſuddenly, that we have not yet had leiſure

leiſure to examine into the uſes of them. I ſhall therefore, enquire, Firſt, into the ancient uſes of ghoſts: and ſecondly, Reſolve the queſtion, of what uſe they are likely to be in modern times?

Firſt, I obſerve, with the aſſiſtance of the facetious captain Groſe, that a ghoſt is ſuppoſed to be the ſpirit of a perſon deceaſed, who is either commiſſioned to return for ſome eſpecial errand, ſuch as the diſcovery of a murder, to procure reſtitution of lands or money, unjuſtly withheld from an orphan or widow—or, having committed ſome injuſtice while living, cannot reſt till that is redreſſed. Sometimes, the occaſion of ſpirits reviſiting this world, is to inform their heir in what ſecret place, or private drawer in an old trunk, they had hidden the title-deeds of the eſtate; or where, in troubleſome times, they buried their money and plate. Some ghoſts of murdered perſons, whoſe bodies have been ſecretly buried cannot be at eaſe till their bones have been taken up, and depoſited in conſecrated ground, with all the rites of Chriſtian burial. Sometimes ghoſts appear in conſequence of an agreement made, while living, with ſome particular friend, that he who firſt died ſhould appear to the ſurvivor. Glanvil tells us of the ghoſt of a perſon, who had lived but a diſorderly kind of life, for which it was condemned to wander up and down the earth, in the company of evil ſpirits, till the day of judgment.

In moſt of the relations of ghoſts, they are ſuppoſed to be mere aerial beings, without ſubſtance, and that they can paſs through walls and other ſolid bodies at pleaſure. The uſual time at which ghoſts make their appearance is midnight, and ſeldom before it is dark; though ſome audacious ſpirits have been ſaid to appear even by day light: but of this there are few inſtances, and thoſe moſtly ghoſts who have been laid, perhaps in the Red Sea, and whoſe times of confinement were expired: theſe, like felons confined to the lighters, are ſaid to return more troubleſome and daring than before. Ghoſts commonly appear in the ſame dreſs they uſually wore while living, though they are ſometimes clothed all in white; but that is chiefly the churchyard ghoſts, who have no particular buſineſs, but ſeem to appear *pro publico bono*, or to ſcare drunken ruſtics from tumbling over their graves.

I cannot learn that ghoſts carry tapers in their hands, as they are ſometimes depicted, though the room in which they appear if without fire or candle, is frequently ſaid to be as light as day. Dragging chains is not the faſhion of Engliſh ghoſts; chains and black veſtments being chiefly the accoutrements of foreign ſpectres, ſeen in arbitrary governments; dead or alive, Engliſh ſpirits are free.—If, during the time of an apparition, there is a lighted candle in the room, it will burn extremely blue; this is ſo univerſally acknowledged, that many eminent philoſphers have buſied themſelves in accounting for it, without once doubting the fact.

The coming of a ſpirit is announced, ſome time before its appearance, by a variety of loud and dreadful noiſes; ſometimes rattling in the old hall like a coach and ſix, and rumbling up and down the ſtaircaſe, like a trundling of bowls or canon-balls. At length, the door flies open, and the ſpectre ſtalks ſlowly up to the bed's foot, and opening the curtains, looks ſtedfaſtly at the perſon in bed by whom it is ſeen; a ghoſt being very rarely viſible to more than one perſon, although there are ſeveral in company. It is here neceſſary to obſerve, that it has been univerſally found by experience, as well as affirmed by divers apparitions themſelves, that a ghoſt has not the power to ſpeak till it has been firſt ſpoken to; ſo that, notwithſtanding the urgency

gency of the buſineſs on which it may come, every thing muſt ſtand ſtill till the perſon viſited can find ſufficient courage to ſpeak to it; an event that ſometimes does not take place for many years. It has not been found that female ghoſts are more loquacious, than thoſe of the male ſex, both being equally reſtrained by this law.

The mode of addreſſing a ghoſt is by commanding it, in the name of the Trinity, to tell you who it is, and what is its buſineſs; this it may be neceſſary to repeat three times; after which it will, in a low and hollow voice, declare its ſatisfaction at being ſpoken to, and deſire the party addreſſing it not to be afraid, for it will do him no harm. This being promiſed, it commonly enters into its narrative; which being completed, and its requeſt or commands given, with injunctions that they be immediately executed, it vaniſhes away, frequently in a flaſh of light; in which caſe, ſome ghoſts have been ſo conſiderate as to deſire the party to whom they appeared to ſhut their eyes: ſometimes its departure is attended with delightful muſic. During the narrative of its buſineſs, a ghoſt muſt by no means be interrupted by queſtions of any kind: ſo doing is extremely dangerous; if any doubts ariſe, they muſt be ſtated after the ſpirit has done its tale. Queſtions reſpecting its ſtate, or the ſtate of any of their former acquaintance, are offenſive, and not often anſwered; ſpirits, perhaps, being reſtrained from divulging the ſecrets of their priſon-houſe. Occaſionally, ſpirits will even condeſcend to talk on common occurrences, as is inſtanced by Glanvil, in the apparition of major George Sydenham to captain William Dyke, wherein the major reproved the captain for ſuffering a ſword which he had given him to grow ruſty, ſaying, 'Captain, captain, this ſword did not uſe to be kept after this manner when it was mine.' This attention to the ſtate of arms was a remnant of the major's profeſſional duty when living. It is ſomewhat remarkable, that ghoſts do not go about their buſineſs, like perſons of this world. In caſes of murder, a ghoſt, inſtead of going to the next juſtice of the peace, and laying its information, or to the neareſt relation of the perſon murdered, appears to ſome poor labourer, who knows none of the parties, draws the curtains of ſome decrepit nurſe or alms-woman, or hovers about the place where his body is depoſited. The ſame circuitous mode is purſued with reſpect to redreſſing injured orphans or widows; when it ſeems as if the ſhorteſt and moſt certain way would be, to go to the perſon guilty of the injuſtice, and haunt him continually till he be terrified into a reſtitution. Nor is the pointing out loſt writings generally managed in a more ſummary way; the ghoſt commonly applying to a third perſon, ignorant of the whole affair, and a ſtranger to all concerned. But it is preſumptuous to ſcrutinize too far into theſe matters; ghoſts have undoubtedly forms and cuſtoms peculiar to themſelves.

If, after the firſt appearance, the perſons employed neglect, or are prevented from, performing the meſſage or buſineſs committed to their management, the ghoſt appears continually to them, at firſt with a diſcontented, next an angry, and at length with a furious countenance, threatning to tear them to pieces if the matter is not forthwith executed: ſometimes terrifying them, by appearing in many formidable ſhapes, and ſometimes even giving them a violent blow. Of blows given by ghoſts there are many inſtances, and ſome wherein they have been followed with an incurable lameneſs.

It ſhould have been obſerved, that ghoſts, in delivering their commiſſions, in order to enſure belief, commu-

municate to the perſons employed ſome ſecret, known only to the parties concerned, and themſelves, the relation of which always produces the effect intended. The buſineſs being completed, ghoſts appear with a cheerful countenance, ſaying they ſhall now be at reſt, and will never more diſturb any one; and, thanking their agents, by way of reward communicate to them ſomething relative to themſelves, which they will never reveal.

Sometimes ghoſts appear, and diſturb a houſe, without deigning to give any reaſon for ſo doing; with theſe, the ſhorteſt and only way is to exorciſe and eject them; or, as the vulgar term it, *lay* them. For this purpoſe there muſt be two or three clergymen, and the ceremony muſt be performed in Latin: a language that ſtrikes the moſt audacious ghoſt with terror. A ghoſt may be laid for any term leſs than a hundred years, and in any place, or body, full or empty; as a ſolid oak—the pommel of a ſword—a barrel of beer, if a yeoman, or ſimple gentleman—or, if an eſquire or a juſtice, in a pipe of wine. But of all places, the moſt common, and what a ghoſt leaſt likes, is the Red Sea; it being related in many inſtances, that ghoſts have moſt earneſtly beſought the exorciſts not to confine them in that place. It is nevertheleſs conſidered as an indiſputed fact, that there are an infinite number laid there, perhaps from its being a ſafer priſon, than any other nearer at hand; though neither hiſtory nor tradition gives us any inſtance of ghoſts eſcaping or returning from this kind of tranſportation before their time.

Such are the uſes which have been anſwered by ancient ghoſts, thoſe in which our forefathers took delight. The ſecond part of my enquiry was to reſolve their uſe in modern times, as it is needleſs to inform any of my readers that they have lately been revived in our theatres.

This part of my ſubject will take up very little room, and may be expreſſed in very few words. The only uſe any perſon has yet diſcovered for modern ghoſts is, *to fill the manager's pockets!*

NEW CONSTITUTION OF FRANCE.

Chap. I.

Article I.

THE French republic is one and indiviſible.

Its European territory is diſtributed into departments and communal diſtricts.

2. Every man born and reſident in France, and of the age of 21 years, who has inſcribed his name in the civic regiſter of his communal diſtrict, and afterward remained a year on the territory of the French republic, is a French citizen.

3. A foreigner becomes a French citizen, who, after having attained the age of 21 years, and declared his intention of fixing his reſidence in France, has reſided there for ten ſucceſſive years.

4. The title of French citizen is forfeited—By naturalization in a foreign country.

By accepting any office or penſion from a foreign government.

By affiliation with any foreign corporation, which ſuppoſes diſtinctions of birth.

By condemnation to corporal or infamous puniſhments.

5. The exerciſe of the rights of a French citizen is ſuſpended by bankruptcy, or by a total or partial ſucceſſion to the property of an inſolvent.

By a ſtate of hired ſervitude, either attached to the ſervice of the perſon or the family.

By a ſtate of judicial interdiction, accuſation, or contumacy.

6. In

6. In order to exerciſe the rights of citizenſhip, they muſt have been acquired by being domiciliated by a year's reſidence, and not forfeited by a year's abſence.

7. The citizens of every communal diſtrict ſhall appoint, by their ſuffrages, thoſe whom they think moſt worthy of conducting the public affairs. There ſhall be a liſt of confidence, containing a number of names equal to a tenth of the number of citizens poſſeſſing the right of ſuffrage. From this firſt communal liſt the public functionaries of diſtricts ſhall be taken.

8. The citizens compriſed in the communal liſts of a department ſhall alſo appoint a tenth of their number. Theſe ſhall conſtitute a ſecond liſt, called the departmental liſt, from which the public functionaries of each department ſhall be taken.

9. The citizens included in the departmental liſt ſhall alſo appoint a tenth of their number; this third liſt ſhall conſiſt of the citizens of each department, eligible to public national functions.

10. The citizens who ſhall have a right of co-operating in the formation of any of the liſts mentioned in the three preceding articles, ſhall every third year be called upon to exerciſe the power of replacing thoſe who have died, or abſented themſelves for any other cauſe than the exerciſe of a public function.

11. They may alſo withdraw from the liſts thoſe whom they ſhall not judge proper to continue, and replace them by other citizens in whom they may have greater confidence.

12. No one ſhall be eraſed from the liſts, otherwiſe than by the votes of the deciſive majority of the citizens, having the right of co-operating in their formation.

13. No one ſhall be eraſed from the liſt of thoſe eligible to public national functions, merely becauſe his name may have been ſtruck out of a liſt of an inferior or ſuperior degree.

14. The appointment to the liſt of eligibles is only neceſſary with regard to public functions, for which that condition is expreſsly required by the conſtitution or by the law. All the liſts of the eligibles ſhall be formed in the courſe of the 9th year.

Chap. II.

15. The conſervatory ſenate ſhall be compoſed of 24 members, of 40 years of age, at leaſt, to be immoveable during life.

For the formation of the ſenate, there ſhall be nominated in the firſt inſtance 60 members; this number ſhall be increaſed to 62 in the courſe of the 8th year, to 64 in the 9th year, and ſhall be gradually increaſed to 80 by the addition of two members in each of the ten firſt years.

16. The nomination to the office of ſenator ſhall be by the ſenate, who ſhall make choice out of three candidates preſented to them; the firſt by the legiſlative body, the ſecond by the tribunate, and the third by the chief conſul.

They ſhall only chuſe from two candidates, if one of them is propoſed by two of the three authorities preſenting them.

17. The chief conſul, upon quiting his office, either by the expiration of his functions, or by reſignation, neceſſarily, and as a matter of right, becomes a ſenator.

The two other conſuls, during the month which follows the expiration of their functions, may take their ſeats in the ſenate, but are not obliged to exerciſe that privilege.

They loſe it altogether, if they quit their conſular functions, by reſignation.

18. A ſenator is always ineligible to any other public function.

19. All the liſts made in the departments, by virtue of the 9th article,

ticle, ſhall be addreſſed to the ſenate. They ſhall compoſe the national liſt.

20. From this liſt ſhall be elected the legiſlators, the tribunes, the conſuls, the judges of caſſation, and the *commiſſaires a la reſponſibilitè.*

21 They ſhall confirm or annul every act referred to them as unconſtitutional by the tribunate, or the government; the liſts of the eligibles ſhall be included among theſe acts.

22. The revenues of national domains, the terms of which are expired, ſhall be liable to the expences of the ſenate. The annual ſalary of each of its members ſhall be paid out of thoſe revenues. It ſhall be equal to a 20th of that of the chief conſul.

23. The ſittings of the ſenate are not public.

24. Citizens Sieyes and Roger Ducos, the two conſuls who are to go out of office, ſhall be nominated members of the conſervatory ſenate; they ſhall unite with the ſecond and third conſuls nominated by the preſent one. Theſe four citizens ſhall appoint the majority of the ſenate, which ſhall afterward complete itſelf, and proceed to the elections entrutted to its direction.

CHAP. III.

Of the Legiſlative Power.

25. No new law ſhall be promulgated, unleſs the plan ſhall have been propoſed by the government, communicated to the tribunate, and decreed by the legiſlative body.

26. The plans which the government may propoſe ſhall be drawn up under different heads. In every caſe in which ſuch plans ſhall be diſcuſſed, the government may withdraw them, and preſent them again in a modified ſtate.

27 The tribunate is to be compoſed of 100 members of 25 years of age, at the leaſt; they ſhall be renewed by fifths every year, and indefinitely re-eligible while they remain upon the national liſt.

28. The tribunate ſhall diſcuſs the plans of every law that may be propoſed: it ſhall vote for the adoption or rejection of them.

It ſhall ſend three orators taken from its body, by whom the motives of its vote, with reſpect to each of the plans, ſhall be ſtated and ſupported before the legiſlative body.

It ſhall refer to the ſenate, but for the cauſe of inconſtitutionality only, the liſt of eligibles, the acts of the legiſlative body, and thoſe of the government.

29. It ſhall expreſs its opinion as to the laws made or to be made, the abuſes to be corrected, the ameliorations to be attempted in every part of the public adminiſtration, but never relative to the civil or criminal affairs, referred to the tribunals.

The opinions it ſhall give, by virtue of the preſent article, are to be followed by no neceſſary conſequence; they compel no conſtituted authority to come to any deliberation.

30. When the tribunate adjourns, it may appoint a committee of from 10 to 15 members, charged to convoke it, if it ſhall be deemed neceſſary.

31. The legiſlative body ſhall be compoſed of 300 members, of 30 years of age, at the leaſt; they ſhall be renewed by fifths every year. There ought always to be one citizen, at leaſt, of each department of the republic preſent.

32. A member who goes out of the legiſlative body cannot re-enter till after the interval of a year; but he may be immediately elected to any other public function, including that of tribune, provided he is in other reſpects eligible.

33. The ſitting of the legiſlative body ſhall commence every year on the 1ſt Frimaire, and ſhall continue only four months; it may be extraordinarily convoked during the other eight by the government.

34. The legiſlative body enacts

the law by determining by ſecret ſcrutiny, and without any diſcuſſion on the part of its members, upon the plans of the law debated before it, by the orators of the tribunate and the government.

35. The ſittings of the tribunate, and of the legiſlative body, ſhall be public; the number of ſtrangers in either of them not to exceed 200.

36. The annual ſalary of a tribune ſhall be 15,000 francs, that of a legiſlator 10,000 francs.

37. Every decree of the legiſlative body ſhall, on the 10th day after it ſhall be made, be promulgated by the chief conſul, unleſs in the mean time it is referred to the ſenate, on the ground of inconſtitutionality. Such reference cannot be made with regard to laws that have been promulgated.

38. The firſt renewal of the legiſlative body, and of the tribunate ſhall not take place till the 10th year.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Government.

39. The government is entruſted to three conſuls appointed for 10 years, and indefinitely re-eligible. Each of them is to be elected individually with the diſtinct quality of chief, ſecond, or third conſul. The firſt time the third conſul ſhall only be named for five years.

For the preſent time Gen. Buonaparte is appointed chief conſul; citizen Cambaceres, now miniſter of juſtice, ſecond conſul; and citizen Lebrun, member of the committee of ancients, third conſul.

40. The chief conſul has particular functions and attributes, which, when he is exerciſing, he may be temporarily ſupplied by one of his colleagues.

41. The chief conſul is to promulgate the laws; he is to name and revoke at pleaſure the members of the council of ſtate; the miniſters, ambaſſadors, and other principal foreign agents, the officers of the army by land and ſea, the members of local adminiſtration and the commiſſioners of the government at the tribunals. He is to appoint all judges criminal and civil, as well as juſtices of peace, and the judges of caſſation, without the power of afterward revoking them.

42. In the other acts of the government, the ſecond and third conſuls are to have a conſultative voice; they are to ſign the regiſter of the acts, in order to manifeſt that they were preſent; and if they pleaſe, they may counterſign their opinions; after which the determination of the chief conſul ſhall follow.

43. The ſalary of the chief conſul ſhall be 500,000 francs, for the 8th year. The ſalary of the other two conſuls ſhall be equal to three tenths of that of the firſt.

44. The government is to propoſe the laws, and to make the neceſſary regulations to enſure their execution.

45. The government is to direct the receipts and expences of the ſtate, conformable to the annual law which determines the amount of each; it ſhall ſuperintend the coinage of money, of which the law alone ſhall order the iſſue, fix the value, the weight, and the impreſſion.

46. When the government is informed of any conſpiracies againſt the ſtate, it may iſſue orders to arreſt and bring before them the perſons who are ſuſpected as the authors or accomplices; but if, within ten days after ſuch arreſt they are not ſet at liberty, or brought to trial, it ſhall be conſidered, on the part of the miniſter ſigning the order, as an act of arbitrary detenſion.

47. The government is to ſuperintend the internal ſafety, and external defence of the ſtate; it is to diſtribute the forces by ſea and land, and regulate the direction of them.

48. The national guard on duty is ſubject to the regulations of the public adminiſtration.—The national guard not on duty is only ſubject to the law.

49. The

49. The government is to manage political relations abroad, to conduct negociations, to make preliminary ſtipulations, to ſign and conclude all treaties of peace, alliance, truce, neutrality, commerce, and other conventions.

50. Declarations of war and treaties of peace, alliance, and commerce, are to be propoſed, diſcuſſed, decreed, and promulgated in the ſame manner as laws.

Only the diſcuſſions and deliberations relative to theſe objects, as well in the tribunats as in the legiſlative body, are to be in a ſecret committee if the government deſires it.

51. The ſecret articles of a treaty cannot be deſtructive of the public articles.

52. Under the direction of the conſuls, the council of ſtate is charged with drawing up the plans of the laws and the regulations of the public adminiſtration, and to reſolve ſuch difficulties as may occur in all adminiſtrative matters.

53. It is from among the members of the council of ſtate that the orators are to be ſelected, who ſhall be appointed to appear in the name of the government before the legiſlative body.

There are never to be any more than three of theſe orators ſent to ſupport the ſame plan of a law.

54. The miniſters are to procure the execution of the laws, and the regulations of the public adminiſtration.

55. No act of the government can have effect till it is ſigned by a miniſter.

56. One of the miniſters is ſpecially charged with the adminiſtration of the public treaſury. He is to verify the receipts, direct the application of the funds, and the payments authoriſed by law. He is not to be at liberty to pay any thing, except by virtue, firſt, of a law, and only to the extent of the funds for defraying thoſe expences ſuch law has determined upon. Secondly, by a decree of the government. Thirdly, by an order ſigned by a miniſter.

57. The detailed accounts of every miniſter, ſigned and certified by him, are to be made public.

58. The government can only elect or retain as counſellors of ſtate or miniſters, ſuch citizens whoſe names are inſcribed in the national liſt.

59. The local adminiſtrations eſtabliſhed whether for each communal diſtrict, or for the more extended portions of territory, are ſubordinate to the miniſters. No one can become or remain a member of theſe adminiſtrations unleſs he is entered in one of the liſts mentioned in the 7th and 8th articles.

Chap. V.

Of the Tribunal.

60. Every communal arondiſſement ſhall have one or more juſtices of the peace, elected immediately by citizens, for three years.

Their principal duty conſiſts in reconciling the parties applying to them, and in caſe of non-conciliation, to decide their diſpute by arbitrators.

61. In civil matters there are tribunals of firſt inſtance, and tribunals of appeal. The law determines the organization of the one and the other; their confidence and territory forming the juriſdiction of each.

62. In caſes of crimes, to which are annexed a corporal or infamous puniſhment, a firſt jury admits or rejects the charge If it be admitted, a ſecond jury pronounces on the fact, and the judges compoſing a criminal tribunal apply the puniſhment. Their judgment is without appeal.

63. The function of public accuſer to a criminal tribunal is filled by the commiſſioner of government.

64. The crimes which do not amount to corporal or infamous puniſhment are tried before the tribunals of correctional police, ſaving an appeal to the criminal tribunals.

65. There is for the whole republic

lie a tribunal of caſſation, which pronounces on appeals againſt judgments in the dernier reſort, given by the tribunals in caſes referred from one tribunal to another on account of lawful ſuſpicion, or the public ſafety, upon exceptions taken by the party againſt the whole tribunal.

66. The tribunal of caſſation does not inquire into the merits, but it reverſes the judgments given on proceedings in which form is violated, or which contain ſomething contrary to the expreſſed law, but ſends the caſe back to be tried on the merits by the tribunal which has cognizance of them.

67. The judges who conſtitute the tribunals of the firſt inſtance, and the commiſſioners of government eſtabliſhed at the tribunals, are taken from the communal or departmental liſt.

The judges forming the tribunals of appeal, and the commiſſioners placed with them, are taken from the departmental liſt.

The judges compoſing the tribunal of caſſation, and the commiſſioners belonging to that tribunal, are taken from the national liſt.

68. The juſtices, except the juſtices of the peace, remain in office for life, unleſs they ſhould be condemned to forfeit their places, or ſhould not be continued on the liſt of eligibles correſponding with their functions.

Chap. VI.

Of the Reſponſibility of the Public Functionaries.

69. The functions of members, whether of the ſenate or of the legiſlative body, or of the tribunate, and alſo thoſe of the conſuls or counſellors of ſtate, do not diſcharge them from reſponſibility.

70. Perſonal crimes, to which are annexed corporal or infamous puniſhment, committed by a member either of the ſenate, tribunate, legiſlative body, or of the council of ſtate, are proſecuted before the ordinary tribunals, after a deliberation of the body, to which the perſon charged belongs, has authoriſed ſuch proſecution.

71. The miniſters arranged, in their private capacity, of crimes to which are annexed corporal or infamous puniſhment, are conſidered as members of the council of ſtate.

72. The miniſters are reſponſible —1ſt, for every act of government ſigned by them, and declared unconſtitutional by the ſenate; 2d, for the non-execution of the laws, and of the regulations of the public adminiſtration; 3d, for the particular orders which they have given, if theſe orders are contrary to the conſtitution, the laws, and ordinances.

73. In the ſeveral caſes of the preceding article, the tribunate denounces the miniſter by an act on which the legiſlative body deliberates in ordinary form, after having heard or ſummoned the perſon denounced. The miniſter placed in a courſe of judgment is tried by a high court without appeal, or reſource for a reverſal.

The high court is compoſed of judges and jurors. The judges are choſen by the tribunal of caſſation and from its boſom. The jurors are choſen from the national liſt; the whole according to the forms preſcribed by the laws.

74. The judges, civil and criminal, for crimes relating to their functions, are proſecuted before the tribunals to which the tribunal of caſſation ſends them, after having annulled their acts.

75. The agents of government, other than the miniſters, cannot be proſecuted for acts relating to their functions, but by virtue of a deciſion of the council of ſtate; in this caſe the proſecution is carried on before the ordinary tribunals.

Chap. VII.

General Diſpoſitions.

76. The houſe of every perſon inhabiting the French territory is an inviolable aſylum.

During the night no perſon has a right

right to enter it, except in caſe of fire, inundation, or the requeſt of the perſons within.

In the day one may enter it for a ſpecial purpoſe, determined either by the law, or an order emanating from a public authority.

77. In order that the act which ordains the arreſt of a perſon may be executed, it is neceſſary, 1ſt, that it expreſs in form the cauſes for ſuch arreſt, and the law in execution of which it is ordered; 2dly, that it iſſues from a functionary to whom the law has formally given that power; 3dly, that it be notified to the perſon arreſted, and a copy of it left with him.

78. No keeper or gaoler can receive or detain any perſon without having firſt tranſcribed on his regiſter the act ordering his arreſt. This muſt be a mandate, given in the forms preſcribed by the preceding article, or a warrant for taking the body, or a decree of accuſation, or a judgment.

79. Every keeper or gaoler is bound, without any order being able to diſpenſe with it, to repreſent the perſon in his cuſtody to the civil officer having the police of the houſe of detention, whenever this officer ſhall demand ſuch account.

80. A repreſentation of a perſon in cuſtody ſhall not be refuſed to his parents and friends, carrying an order from the civil officer, who ſhall be always obliged to grant it, unleſs the keeper or gaoler produces an order of a judge to keep the priſoner ſecret.

81. All thoſe who, not being inveſted by the law with the power of arreſting, ſhall give, ſign, or execute the arreſt of any perſon whatever; all thoſe who, even in the caſe of arreſt authorized by law, ſhall receive or detain the perſon arreſted in a place of confinement, not publicly and legally deſignated as ſuch; and all keepers or gaolers who ſhall act contrary to the diſpoſitions of the three preceding articles, ſhall be guilty of the crime of arbitrary detention.

82. All ſeverities uſed in arreſt, detentions, or executions, other than thoſe commanded by the laws, are crimes.

83 Every perſon has a right of addreſſing private petitions to every conſtituted authority, and particularly to the tribunate.

84. The public force is neceſſarily in a ſtate of obedience; no armed body can deliberate.

85. Military crimes are ſubjected to ſpecial tribunals, and particular forms of judgment.

86. The French nation declares, that it will grant penſions to all the military wounded in defence of their country, and alſo to the widows and children of ſuch military as have died on the field of battle, or in conſequence of their wounds.

87. It ſhall decree national rewards to the warriors, who ſhall have rendered diſtinguiſhed ſervices in fighting for the republic.

88. A conſtituted body cannot deliberate except in a ſitting, at which two thirds of its members, at leaſt, are preſent.

89. A national inſtitute is charged with receiving diſcoveries, and perfecting the arts and ſciences.

90. A committee of national compatibilité regulates and verifies the accounts of the receipts and expences of the republic. This committee is compoſed of ſeven members choſen by the ſenate from the national liſt.

91. The regime of the French colonies is determined by ſpecial laws.

92. In caſe of the revolt of an armed body, or of troubles which menace the ſafety of the ſtate, the law may ſuſpend in the places, and for the time it determines, the empire of the conſtitution.

This ſuſpenſion may be proviſionally declared in the ſame caſes, by an arrêté of government, the legiſlative body not being ſitting, provided this body

body be convened at a very ſhort term by an article of the ſame arrêté.

93. The French nation declares, that in no caſe will it ſuffer the return of the French who, having abandoned their country ſince 1789, are not compriſed in the exceptions contained in the laws againſt emigrants. It interdicts every new exception on this point.

The property of emigrants irrevocably belongs to the republic.

94. The French nation declares, that after a ſale legally completed of national property, whatever may be its origin, the lawful purchaſer cannot be diſpoſſeſſed, ſaving the right of third perſons, if ſuch there ſhould be, claiming to be indemnified out of the public treaſury.

95. The preſent conſtitution ſhall be offered forthwith for the acceptance of the French people.

Done at Paris the 22d Frimaire (Dec. 13 1799.), in the 8th year of the French Republic, one and indiviſible.

The ſignatures of the members of the legiſlative committees and conſuls follow.

Letters from the Miniſter for Foreign Affairs in France and from General Bonaparte, with the anſwers returned to them by the Right Hon. Lord Grenville his Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

My Lord,

I DISPATCH, by order of General Bonaparte, Firſt Conſul of the French Republic, a Meſſenger to London: he is the Bearer of a Letter from the Firſt Conſul of the French Republic to his Majeſty the King of England. I requeſt you to give the neceſſary orders that he may be enabled to deliver it directly into your own hands. This ſtep, in itſelf, announces the importance of its object.

Accept, my Lord, the aſſurance of my higheſt conſideration.

(Signed) *Ch. Mau. Talleyrand.*

Paris, 5th Nivoſe, 8th Year of the French Republic. (Dec. 25, 1799.)

French Republic—Sovereignty of the People—Liberty—Equality.

Bonaparte, Firſt Conſul of the Republic, to his Majeſty the King of Great Britain and of Ireland.

Paris, the 5th Nivoſe, 8th Year of the Republic.

Called by the wiſhes of the French Nation to occupy the Firſt Magiſtracy of the Republic, I think it proper, on entering into office, to make a direct communication of it to your Majeſty.

The war which for eight years has ravaged the four quarters of the world, muſt it be eternal? Are there no means of coming to an underſtanding?

How can the two moſt enlightened nations of Europe, powerful and ſtrong beyond what their ſafety and independence require, ſacrifice to ideas of vain greatneſs, the benefits of commerce, internal proſperity, and the happineſs of families? How is it that they do not feel that peace is of the firſt neceſſity, as well as of the firſt glory?

Theſe ſentiments cannot be foreign to the heart of your Majeſty, who reigns over a free nation, and with the ſole view of rendering it happy.

Your Majeſty will only ſee in this overture my ſincere deſire to contribute efficaciouſly, for the ſecond time, to a general pacification, by a ſtep, ſpeedy, entirely of confidence, and diſengaged from thoſe forms which, neceſſary perhaps to diſguiſe the dependence of weak States, prove only in thoſe which are ſtrong the mutual deſire of deceiving each other.

France and England, by the abuſe of their ſtrength, may ſtill, for a long time, for the misfortune of all nations, retard the period of their being exhauſted.—But I will venture to ſay it, the fate of all civiliſed nations

is

is attached to the termination of a war which involves the whole world.

Of your Majeſty,

(Signed) *Bonaparte.*

Sir, *Downing Street, Jan.* 4, 1800.

I have received and laid before the King the two letters which you have tranſmitted to me, and his Majeſty, ſeeing no reaſon to depart from thoſe forms which have long been eſtabliſhed in Europe for tranſacting buſineſs with Foreign States, has commanded me to return, in his name, the Official Anſwer, which I ſend you herewith incloſed.

I have the honour to be,

With high conſideration, Sir,

Your moſt obed. humble ſervant,

(Signed) *Grenville.*

To the Miniſter for Foreign Affairs, &c. at Paris.

Note.

The King has given frequent proofs of his ſincere deſire for the re eſtabliſhment of ſecure and permanent tranquillity in Europe. He neither is nor has been engaged in any conteſt for a vain and falſe glory. He has had no other view than that of maintaining againſt all aggreſſion, the rights and happineſs of his ſubjects.

For theſe he has contended againſt an unprovoked attack: and for the ſame objects he is ſtill obliged to contend; nor can he hope that this neceſſity could be removed by entering, at the preſent moment, into negociation with thoſe whom a freſh revolution has ſo recently placed in the exerciſe of power in France.—Since no real advantage can ariſe from ſuch negociation to the great and deſirable object of general peace, until it ſhall diſtinctly appear that thoſe cauſes have ceaſed to operate which originally produced the war, and by which it has ſince been protracted, and, in more than one inſtance, renewed.

The ſame ſyſtem, to the prevalence of which France juſtly aſcribes all her preſent miſeries, is that which has alſo involved the reſt of Europe in a long and deſtructive warfare, of a nature long ſince unknown to the practice of civiliſed nations. For the extenſion of this ſyſtem, and for the extermination of all eſtabliſhed governments, the reſources of France have from year to year, and in the midſt of the moſt unparalleled diſtreſs, been laviſhed and exhauſted. To this indiſcriminate ſpirit of deſtruction, the Netherlands, the United Provinces, the Swiſs Cantons (his majeſty's ancient friends and allies,) have ſucceſſively been ſacrificed. Germany has been ravaged; Italy, though now reſcued from its invaders, has been made the ſcene of unbounded rapine and anarchy. His majeſty has himſelf been compelled to maintain an arduous and burdenſome conteſt for the independence and exiſtence of his kingdoms.

Nor have theſe calamities been confined to Europe alone; they have been extended to the moſt diſtant quarters of the world, and even to countries ſo remote both in ſituation and intereſt from the preſent conteſt, that the very exiſtence of ſuch a war was, perhaps unknown to thoſe who found themſelves ſuddenly involved in all its horrors.

While ſuch a ſyſtem continues to prevail, and while the blood and treaſure of a numerous and powerful nation can be laviſhed in its ſupport, experience has ſhewn that no defence but that of open and ſteady hoſtility can be availing. The moſt ſolemn treaties have only prepared the way for freſh aggreſſion: and it is to a determined reſiſtance alone that is now due whatever remains in Europe of ſtability for property, perſonal liberty, for ſocial order, or for the free exerciſe of religion.

For the ſecurity, therefore, of theſe eſſential objects, his majeſty cannot place his reliance on the mere renewal of general profeſſions of pa-

cific

cific diſpoſitions. Such profeſſions have been repeatedly held out by all thoſe who have ſucceſſively directed the reſources of France to the deſtruction of Europe! and whom the preſent rulers have declared to have been all from the beginning, and uniformly, incapable of maintaining the relations of amity and peace.

Greatly, indeed, will his majeſty rejoice whenever it ſhall appear that the danger to which his own dominions, and thoſe of his allies, have been ſo long expoſed has really ceaſed; whenever he ſhall be ſatisfied that the neceſſity of reſiſtance is at an end: that after the experience of ſo many years of crimes and miſeries, better principles have ultimately prevailed in France; and that all the gigantic projects of ambition, and all the reſtleſs ſchemes of deſtruction which have endangered the very exiſtence of civil ſociety, have, at length, been finally relinquiſhed:—but the conviction of ſuch a change, however agreeable to his majeſty's wiſhes, can reſult only from experience, and from the evidence of facts.

The beſt and moſt natural pledge of its reality and permanence, would be the reſtoration of that line of princes which for ſo many centuries maintained the French nation in proſperity at home, and in conſideration and reſpect abroad:—ſuch an event would at once have removed, and will at any time remove, all obſtacles in the way of negociation or peace. It would confirm to France the unmoleſted enjoyment of its ancient territory, and it would give to all the other nations of Europe, in tranquillity and peace, that ſecurity which they are now compelled to ſeek by other means.

But, deſirable as ſuch an event muſt be both to France and to the world, it is not to this mode excluſively that his majeſty limits the poſſibility of ſecure and ſolid pacification. His majeſty makes no claim to preſcribe to France what ſhall be the form of her government, or in whoſe hands ſhe ſhall veſt the authority neceſſary for conducting the affairs of a great and powerful nation.

His majeſty looks only to the ſecurity of his own dominions and thoſe of his allies, and to the general ſafety of Europe. Whenever he ſhall judge that ſuch ſecurity can in any manner be attained, as reſulting either from the internal ſituation of that country, from whoſe internal ſituation the danger has ariſen, or from ſuch other circumſtances of whatever nature as may produce the ſame end, his majeſty will eagerly embrace the opportunity to concert with his allies the means of immediate and general pacification.

Unhappily no ſuch ſecurity hitherto exiſts; no ſufficient evidence of the principles by which the new government will be directed; no reaſonable ground by which to judge of its ſtability. In this ſituation it can for the preſent only remain for his majeſty to purſue, in conjunction with other powers, thoſe exertions of juſt and defenſive war, which his regard to the happineſs of his ſubjects will never permit him either to continue beyond the neceſſity in which they originated, or to terminate on any other grounds than ſuch as may beſt contribute to the ſecure enjoyment of their tranquillity, their conſtitution, and their independence.

Grenville.

Downing-ſtreet, Jan. 4, 1800.

To the Miniſter for Foreign Affairs, &c. at Paris.

Letter from the Miniſter for Foreign Affairs at Paris to Lord Grenville.

Paris 24 Nivoſe, 8th Year,
(Jan. 14, 1800.)

My Lord,

I loſt no time in laying before the firſt conſul of the republic the official note, under date of the 14th Niveſe,

vose, which you transmitted to me; and I am charged to forward the answer, equally official, which you will find annexed.

Receive, my lord, the assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed) *Ch. Mau. Talleyrand.*

Minister for Foreign Affairs
at London.

NOTE.

The official note, under date the 14th Nivose, the 8th year, addressed by the minister of his Britannic majesty, having been laid before the first consul of the French republic, he observed with surprise, that it rested upon an opinion which is not exact respecting the origin and consequences of the present war. Very far from its being France which provoked it, she had, it must be remembered, from the commencement of her revolution, solemnly proclaimed her love of peace and her disinclination to conquests, her respect for the independence of all governments: and it is not to be doubted that, occupied at that time entirely with her own internal affairs, she would have avoided taking part in those of Europe, and would have remained faithful to her declarations.

But from an opposite disposition, as soon as the French revolution had broken out, almost all Europe entered into a league for its destruction. The aggression was real, long time before it was public; internal resistance was excited; its opponents were favourably received; their extravagant declamations were supported; the French nation was insulted in the person of its agents; and England set particularly this example by the dismissal of the minister accredited to her.—Finally, France was, in fact, attacked in her independence, in her honour, and in her safety, long time before the war was declared.

Thus it is to the projects of subjection, dissolution, and dismemberment, which were prepared against her, and the execution of which was several times attempted and pursued, that France has a right to impute the evils which she has suffered, and those which have afflicted Europe. Such projects, for a long time without example, with respect to so powerful a nation, could not fail to bring on the most fatal consequences.

Assailed on all sides, the republic could not but extend universally the efforts of her defence, and it is only for the maintenance of her own independence that she has made use of those means which she possessed, in her own strength and the courage of her citizens. As long as she saw that her enemies obstinately refused to recognise her rights, she counted only upon the energy of her resistance; but as soon as they were obliged to abandon the hope of invasion, she sought for means of conciliation, and manifested pacific intentions; and if these have not been efficacious; if, in the midst of the critical circumstances of her internal situation, which the revolution and the war have successively brought on, the former depositaries of the executive authority in France have not always shewn as much moderation as the nation itself has shewn courage, it must above all be imputed to the fatal and persevering animosity with which the resources of England have been lavished to accomplish the ruin of France.

But if the wishes of his Britannic majesty (in conformity with his assurances) are, in unison with those of the French republic, for the restablishment of peace, why, instead of attempting the apology of the war, should not attention rather be paid to the means of terminating it? And what obstacle can prevent a mutual understanding, of which the utility is reciprocal, and is felt, especially when the first consul of the republic has personally given so many

proofs of his eagerneſs to put an end to the calamities of war, and of his diſpoſition to maintain the rigid obſervance of all treaties concluded?

The firſt conſul of the republic could not doubt that his Britannic majeſty recogniſed the right of nations to chuſe the form of their government, ſince it is from the exerciſe of this right that he holds his crown; but he has been unable to comprehend how to this fundamental principle, upon which reſts the exiſtence of political ſocieties, the miniſter of his majeſty could annex inſinuations which tend to an interference in the internal affairs of the republic, and which are no leſs injurious to the French nation and to its government, than it would be to England and to his majeſty, if a ſort of invitation were held out in favour of that republican government, of which England adopted the forms in the middle of the laſt century, or an exhortation to recal to the throne that family whom their birth had placed there, and whom a revolution compelled to deſcend from it.

If at periods, not far diſtant, when the conſtitutional ſyſtem of the republic preſented neither the ſtrength nor the ſolidity which it it contains at preſent, his Britannic majeſty thought himſelf enabled to invite a negociation and pacific conferences; how is it poſſible that he ſhould not be eager to renew negociations to which the preſent and reciprocal ſituation of affairs promiſes a rapid progreſs? On every ſide, the voice of nations and of humanity implores the concluſion of a war, marked already by ſuch great calamities, and the prolongation of which threatens Europe with an univerſal convulſion and irremediable evils. It is, therefore, to put a ſtop to the courſe of theſe calamities, or in order that their terrible conſequences may be reproached to thoſe only who ſhall have provoked them, that the firſt conſul of the French republic propoſes to put an immediate end to hoſtilities, by agreeing to a ſuſpenſion of arms, and naming plenipotentiaries on each ſide, who ſhould repair to Dunkirk, or any other town as advantageouſly ſituated for the quickneſs of the reſpective communications, and who ſhall apply themſelves without delay to effect the re-eſtabliſhment of peace and good underſtanding between the French republic and England.

The firſt conſul offers to give the paſſports which may be neceſſary for this purpoſe.

(Signed) *Ch. Mau. Talleyrand.*

Paris, 24th Nivoſe, (14th Jan. 1800,) 8th year of the French Republic.

Letter from Lord Grenville to the Miniſter for Foreign Affairs at Paris.

Sir, *Downing ſtreet, Jan.* 20, 1800.

I have the honour to incloſe to you the anſwer which his majeſty has directed me to return to the official note which you tranſmitted to me. I have the honour to be, with high conſideration, Sir,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

(Signed) *Grenville.*

To the Miniſter for Foreign Affairs, &c. at Paris.

Note.

The official note tranſmitted by the miniſter for foreign affairs in France, and received by the underſigned on the 18th inſt. has been laid before the king.

His majeſty cannot forbear expreſſing the concern with which he obſerves in that note, that the unprovoked aggreſſions of France, the ſole cauſe and origin of the war, are ſyſtematically defended by her preſent ruler under the ſame injurious pretences by which they were originally attempted to be diſguiſed. His majeſty will not enter into the refutation of allegations now univerſally exploded, and (in ſo far as they reſpect

ſpect his majeſty's conduct) not only in themſelves utterly groundleſs, but contradicted both by the internal evidence of the tranſactions to which they relate, and alſo by the expreſs teſtimony (given at the time) of the government of France itſelf.

With reſpect to the object of the note, his majeſty can only refer to the anſwer which he has already given.

He has explained, without reſerve, the obſtacles which, in his judgment, preclude at the preſent moment all hope of advantage from negociation. All the inducements to treat, which are relied upon in the French official note; the perſonal diſpoſitions which are ſaid to prevail for the concluſion of peace, and for the future obſervance of treaties; the power of inſuring the effect of thoſe diſpoſitions, ſuppoſing them to exiſt; and the ſolidity of the ſyſtem newly eſtabliſhed, after ſo rapid a ſucceſſion of revolutions; all theſe are points which can be known only from that teſt to which his majeſty has already referred them—the reſult of experience, and the evidence of facts.

With that ſincerity and plainneſs which his anxiety for the re-eſtabliſhment of peace indiſpenſably required, his majeſty has pointed out to France the ſureſt and ſpeedieſt means for the attainment of that great object. But he has declared in terms equally explicit, and with the ſame ſincerity, that he entertains no deſire to preſcribe to a foreign nation the form of its government; that he looks only to the ſecurity of his own dominions and of Europe; and that whenever that eſſential object can, in his judgment, be, in any manner whatever, ſufficiently provided for, he will eagerly concert with his allies the means of immediate and joint negociation for the re-eſtabliſhment of general tranquillity.

To theſe declarations his majeſty ſteadily adheres, and it is only on the grounds thus ſtated, that his regard to the ſafety of his ſubjects will ſuffer him to renounce that ſyſtem of vigorous defence, to which, under the favour of Providence, his kingdoms owe the ſecurity of thoſe bleſſings which they now enjoy.

(Signed) *Grenville.*

Downing-ſtreet, Jan. 20, 1800.

MEMOIRS OF RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN, ESQ.

From Public Characters of 1799-1800.

IT has been juſtly remarked by Dr Johnſon that, "many things, which are falſe, are tranſmitted from book to book, and gain credit in the world." This obſervation may be applied to the different memoirs of Mr Sheridan, which have been publiſhed.

The groſſeſt errors acquire a ſort of currency among the majority of readers, who have not had an opportunity, or perhaps an inclination, to inveſtigate the accuracy of circumſtances, that ſeem of trifling moment. They are conſidered as unqueſtionable facts by ſucceeding biographers, and given to the public with embelliſhments which ſtrengthen deception, and frequently miſlead even the friends of the perſon, whoſe memoir is the ſubject of peruſal. But it is the duty of a biographer to be accurate in the moſt trivial circumſtances, which he has occaſion to relate, or to omit them altogether.

Richard Brinſley Sheridan, is the third ſon of Mr Thomas Sheridan, celebrated as an actor, eminent for his ſkill in elocution, and entitled to the gratitude of the public for his judicious and indefatigable exertions to improve the ſyſtem of education in this country. His works, with the exception of ſome plays, which he altered, and the Life of Dean Swift, which he prepared for publication, in

general, relate to the elements of language and the inſtruction of youth*. His father, the Rev. Doctor Thomas Sheridan, was a diſtinguiſhed divine, the ableſt ſchool maſter of his time, and the intimate friend of the Dean of St Patrick's. Mr Thomas Sheridan died at Margate on the 14th of Auguſt, 1788.

Mrs Frances Sheridan, the mother of Richard Brinſley, a lady no leſs reſpected for her domeſtic virtues than admired for her literary attainments, was the author of Sidney Biddulph, a novel, which has the merit of combining the pureſt morality with the moſt powerful intereſt. She alſo wrote Nourjahad, an Oriental Tale, and the comedies of the Diſcovery, the Dupe, and a Trip to Bath. She died at Blois in France, the 17th of Sept. 1766†.

The ſubject of this memoir was born in Dorſet-Street, Dublin, in the month of Oct. 1751‡. He was placed, in his ſeventh year, with his elder brother Charles Francis, late Secretary at War in Ireland, the correct and elegant hiſtorian of the revolution in Sweden, under the tuition of Mr Samuel Whyte of Dublin, the friend of their father, who has been a long time highly eſteemed for his care and ability in the inſtruction of youth. They were the two firſt pupils of Mr Whyte, who opened his academy in April 1758, and it is a circumſtance not entirely unworthy of remark, that their early years afforded no promiſe of the abilities which they have ſince diſplayed. Mrs Sheridan, whoſe diſcrimination cannot be queſtioned, took an opportunity, on committing them to the care of Mr White, to advert to the neceſſity of *patience* in the ardous profeſſion, which he had embraced, and addreſſed him in the following language—"Theſe boys will be your tutors in that reſpect. I have hitherto been their only inſtructor, and they have ſufficiently exerciſed mine; for two ſuch impenetrable dunces I never met with."

Having remained nearly eighteen months with Mr Whyte, they were ſent by that gentlemen, in September 1759, to Mr and Mrs Sheridan, who then reſided at Windſor. There they paſſed nearly a year, their education, during that time, being ſuperinteded by Mrs Sheridan herſelf. Richard Brinſley was placed at Harrow ſchool, after the Chriſtmas of 1762. The obſervation, made by his mother on the occaſion, taken from one of her letters, now before the writer of this ſketch, is, when connected with his ſubſequent purſuits, rather of a ſingular kind. She ſays—"Dick has been at Harrow ſchool ſince Chriſtmas; as he probably

* Liſt of Mr Sheridan's principal works:—The Loyal Lover, Romeo and Juliet, and Coriolanus, all altered and acted; Britiſh Education; A Diſcourſe delivered in the Theatre at Oxford, and in the ſenate-houſe at Cambridge; A Diſſertation on the Cauſes and Difficulties which occur in learning the Engliſh Tongue; A Courſe of Lectures on Elocution; A Plan of Education for the Young Nobility and Gentry of Great Britain; Lectures on the Art of Reading, in two parts; A general Dictionary of the Engliſh Language; The Works of the Rev. Dr Jonathan Swift, Dean of St Patrick's, arranged, reviſed, and corrected; Elements of Engliſh.

† Such was the reſpect paid to her memory by the Biſhop of Blois, that he had it intimated to her friends, notwithſtanding the difference of religious perſuaſion, that they might take advantage of the night to depoſit her remains in conſecrated ground, and no interruption ſhould be given to the interment—an indulgence in France, which was perhaps never before extended to any reputed heretic. Dr Young, in his Night Thoughts, bitterly complains of the different treatment which attended his daughters burial in the ſame country.

‡ Extract from the regiſter of St Mary's pariſh, Dublin. "Charles Francis, ſon of Thomas and Frances Sheridan, baptized July 23d, 1750.—Richard Brinſley Sheridan, baptized November 4th, 1751."

Mr Sheridan's eldeſt ſon Thomas, died in childhood.

ly may fall into a *buſtling life*, we have a mind to accuſtom him early to *ſhift for himſelf*." It has been reported, but without foundation, that he gave recitations from the Engliſh claſſics during his father's lectures, His father, on the contrary, never entertained an idea of employing him in that manner, as his brother Charles was very much his ſuperior in diligence, correctneſs of ear, and powers of voice, and was remarkable, when only eleven years old, for his elegant and impreſſive delivery of ſeveral paſſages from Milton.

The literary advancement of Mr Sheridan at Harrow, a ſeminary which has ſent into the world many finiſhed ſcholars, and diſtinguiſhed characters, appears to have been at firſt retarded, either by the bluntneſs of his powers, or the negligence of his diſpoſition. Dr Summer, who was then maſter of the ſchool, had probably, from his conſtant attention to the boys of the higher forms, no opportunity of diſtinguiſhing the talents of his pupil; and it was reſerved for Dr Parr, who was at that time one of the ſub-preceptors, to diſcover and call into activity the faculties of young Sheridan's mind.

Richard Brinſley was at length rouſed from the inactivity of which his parents had ſo frequently complained, and the ſpirit of emulation produced exertions, which admonition and the fear of correction had vainly endeavoured to excite. He felt, that to be diſtinguiſhed, it was neceſſary to devote a conſiderable part of his time to ſtudy. His memory was found to be uncommonly retentive, and his judgment correct; and when his mind was quickened by competition, his genius gradually expanded, into that happy verſatility of powers which has never deſerted him. But to be admired ſeemed his only object, and when that end was attained, he relaxed in his application, and ſunk into his former indolence. His laſt year at Harrow was ſpent more in reflecting on the acquirements he had made, and the eventful ſcenes of a buſy life, which were opening to his view, than in enlarging the circle of his claſſical and literary attainments.

His father was ſo highly pleaſed with the progreſs his ſon had made in his ſtudies, that he deemed it unneceſſary to ſend him to the univerſity; and he was, a ſhort time after his departure from Harrow, entered as a ſtudent in the Middle Temple. From that period to his marriage with Miſs Linley, the life of Mr Sheridan ſeems involved in obſcurity, which it is difficult to clear up in a ſatisfactory way. He certainly was not, for it is mentioned on the authority of perſons who were then on terms of intimacy with him, either the votary of faſhion, or immerſed in diſſipation.

Mr Sheridan was, about the age of twenty, peculiarly fond of the ſociety of men of taſte and learning, and ſoon gave proofs that he was inferior to none of his companions in wit and argument. The ſum allowed for his ſupport muſt have been very ſmall, as his father's penſion from the crown * was barely ſufficient to provide for the expences incurred by a genteel, but moderate plan of living; nor were the emoluments ariſing from his lectures on elocution, and his performances as an actor, very conſiderable. In this ſituation, Mr Sheridan had recourſe to his literary talents for pecuniary ſupplies. He had read, immediately after his leaving Harrow, with minute attention, the works of our moſt eminent writers, and applied himſelf to the ſtudy of Engliſh compoſition in its various

* A penſion of 200l. per annum was granted by his Majeſty, in 1762, to Mr T. Sheridan, without ſolicitation, as an encouragement to complete his Engliſh Dictionary, and as a reward for his literary labours.

various branches. Nothing, however, but neceſſity could have induced him to exert his powers, as Dryden and many others had done before him, for immediate profit; for, excluſively of an unaccountable propenſity to indolence, which formed the diſtinguiſhing characteriſtic of his youthful days, and from which he cannot now be ſtimulated but by ſome great and ſudden impulſe, he has ever conſidered a mercenary writer, who is occaſionally compelled to ſacrifice his own conviction to the inſtructions of his employer, as a character truly wretched and contemptible. That he maintained his independence of ſentiment there is no ground to diſbelieve; but he had the prudence to conceal from moſt of his acquaintances, whatever ſhare he had in the fleeting productions of the day. He alſo directed his attention to the drama, as a ſubject, in every reſpect calculated to reward his labours with fame and emolument; but diſguſted with ſome ſketches of comic character, which he drew, he actually deſtroyed them, and, in a moment of deſpair, renounced every hope of excellence as a dramatic writer. A poetical tranſlation of *Aſiſtænetus* has been attributed to him, but the ſhare which he had in that verſion was very limited.

But the views, which he may have then entertained, either with reſpect to the cultivation and exertion of his genius in literary purſuits, or to the ſtudy of the profeſſion to which he had been deſtined by his father, were all loſt in a paſſion, that maſtered his reaſon. He at once ſaw and loved Miſs Linley, and from his firſt introduction to her indulged the hope of triumphing over every obſtacle that oppoſed his happineſs. That lady was no leſs admirable for the elegant accompliſhments of her ſex and the affecting ſimplicity of her converſation, than for the charms of her perſon, and the faſcinating powers of her voice. She was the principal performer in the Oratorios, at Drury-lane theatre; and the ſcience, taſte, but above all, the enthuſiaſtic feeling which ſhe diſplayed in the execution of the airs aſſigned to her, are ſtill remembered with delight. The ſtrains which ſhe poured forth were the happieſt combinations of nature and of art; but nature predominated over art. Her accents were ſo melodious and captivating, and their paſſage to the heart ſo ſudden and irreſiſtable, that "liſt'ning Envy would have dropped her ſnakes, and ſtern-ey'd Fury's ſelf would have melted" at the ſounds.

Mr Sheridan became her avowed ſuitor, and every idea of intereſt and ambition was abſorbed in his paſſion. Her father, Mr Linley, the late ingenious compoſer, was not at firſt propitious to his paſſion, and he had many rivals to overcome in his attempts to gain the lady's affections. His perſeverance, however, encreaſed with the difficulties that preſented themſelves, and his courage and reſolution in vindicating Miſs Linley's reputation from a calumnious report, which had been baſely thrown out againſt it, obtained for him the fair prize for which he twice expoſed his life.

Mr Mathews, a gentleman then well known in the faſhionable circles at Bath, had cauſed a paragraph to be inſerted in a public paper at that place, which tended to prejudice the character of this young lady, and Mr Sheridan immediately applied for redreſs to the printer, who communicated the author's name. Mr Mathews had, in the mean time, ſet out for London, and was cloſely purſued by Mr Sheridan. They met and fought a duel with ſwords at a tavern * in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-garden.

* The houſe ſituated at the weſt end of Henrietta-Street, now a china-warehouſe and partly in Bedford ſtreet.

garden. Mr Sheridan's ſecond on the occaſion was his brother Charles Francis, the late Secretary at War in Ireland. Great courage and ſkill were diſplayed on both ſides: but Mr Sheridan having ſucceeded in diſarming his adverſary, compelled him to ſign a formal retraction of the paragraph which had been publiſhed.

The conqueror inſtantly returned to Bath; and thinking that, as the inſult had been publicly given, the apology ſhould have equal notoriety, he cauſed it to be publiſhed in the ſame paper. Mr Mathews ſoon heard of this circumſtance, and irritated at his defeat, and the uſe which his antagoniſt had made of his retraction, repaired to Bath, determined to call upon Mr Sheridan for ſatisfaction. A meſſage was accordingly ſent, and a meeting agreed to; Mr Sheridan would have been juſtified, according to the moſt delicate punctilios of honour, in declining the call; but he ſilenced all the objections that were ſtarted by his friends, and the parties met at Kingſdown. The victory was deſperately conteſted, and, after a diſcharge of piſtols, they fought with ſwords. They were both wounded, and cloſing with each other, fell on the ground, where the fight was continued until they were ſeparated. They received ſeveral wounds in this arduous ſtruggle for life and honour, and a part of his opponent's weapon was left in Mr Sheridan's ear.

Miſs Linley did not ſuffer a long time to elapſe before ſhe rewarded Mr Sheridan for the dangers he had braved in her defence, by accompanying him on a matrimonial excurſion to the Continent. The ceremony was again performed, on their return to England, with the conſent of the lady's parents.

From the period of her marriage, Mrs Sheridan never appeared as a public performer. Her ſituation in the Oratorios was filled by her younger ſiſter,* Miſs Mary Linley. Several lucrative propoſals were, about this time, made to Mrs Sheridan, to induce her once more to charm the public ear, but they were rejected with diſdain by Mr Sheridan.

During their reſidence in Orchard-ſtreet, they were ſubject to very diſtreſſing embarraſſments; and it was not a very uncommon thing to want the neceſſary ſupplies for the day that was paſſing over them. Yet the firmneſs of Mr Sheridan, in reſiſting every propoſal of this nature, by which any loſs of eſtimation in the eyes of the world might be incurred, remained invincible. He received a letter from the proprietors of the Pantheon, which was then about to be opened, offering Mrs Sheridan one thouſand pounds for her performance during twelve nights, and one thouſand pounds more for a benefit, the profits of which they were to appropriate to their own uſe. The propoſal of ſo large a ſum as two thouſand pounds, which might have been gained in a few weeks, was not even politely declined, but rejected with indignation by Mr Sheridan, notwithſtanding the earneſt entreaties of his wife.

Mr Sheridan, who was now encumbered with the cares of a family, felt the neceſſity of immediate exertion to provide for the preſſing calls, inſeparable from a domeſtic eſtabliſhment, which, if not ſplendid, was marked with all the appearances of genteel life.

His attempt at dramatic compoſition, and the moderate opinion which he entertained of his talents in that reſpect, have been already noticed; but his charming lines to Miſs Linley, and ſome occaſional productions, which diſplayed with equal happineſs his talent for natural tenderneſs of ſentiment and brilliancy of wit, had ſecured to him no mean reputation

as

* This young lady died ſinging, "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

as a poet. Thus compelled to become a candidate for public favour, he once more reſumed his courtſhip of the comic muſe; and having finiſhed his play of the *Rivals*, he preſented it to the Manager of Covent-garden Theatre, and it was accordingly repreſented on the 17th of January, 1775.

This comedy was juſtly conſidered, by candid criticiſm, as a moſt promiſing eſſay for an author in his twenty-fifth year, but the public opinion did not exactly coincide with that of acknowledged judges of dramatic merit; and, in conſequence of ſome ſlight diſapprobation, it was withdrawn after the firſt night's performance. The partial failure of the piece has been attributed to the indifferent acting of Mr Lee, in the character of Sir Lucius O'Trigger. For that gentleman, though allowed to poſſeſs conſiderable merit in parts of much more importance, had not ſufficiently ſtudied the whimſical humour and national manner of Iriſh characters. Whatever may have been the cauſe, Mr Sheridan withdrew his play without any compulſion; and, having made ſome judicious alterations, both in the progreſs of the plot and in the language, it was ſhortly after brought forward again, and received in the moſt favourable manner.

The fable of the Rivals poſſeſſes a ſufficient degree of probability to render it intereſting; the incidents ſucceed each other in natural progreſſion, and the dialogue is witty, humorous, and characteriſtic, interſperſed with pathetic appeals to the heart, but without thoſe extraordinary effuſions of excellence which, from the pen of the ſame writer, have ſince delighted the fancy and improved the underſtanding, on the ſtage and in the cloſet.

Had Mr Sheridan's powers been evinced but by this comedy only, he would have been placed at no very great diſtance beyond the common crowd of play-wrights.

His next production was the farce of *St Patrick's Day*, or *The Scheming Lieutenant*, a piece evidently written more for the purpoſe of trying his ability to excite broad laughter and humorous merriment, than with a view of enlarging his reputation. It was preſented by him to Mr Clinch, as a teſtimony of his good opinion, for the aſſiſtance he had experienced from that gentleman's excellent performance of Sir Lucius O'Trigger, in the Rivals, in which he had ſucceeded Mr Lee. The farce of St Patrick's Day was actually written in eight and forty hours, and was performed, for the benefit of Mr Clinch, on the 2d of May, in the ſame year.

At the commencement of the enſuing ſeaſon, he brought out his comic opera of the *Duenna*, a compoſition in every reſpect ſuperior to the general claſs of Engliſh operas then in faſhion. The plot of this pleaſing piece, which deſervedly retains its popularity on the ſtage, is ſimple, and incapable of producing much intereſt; but the elegance of the diction, the ſweetneſs of the poetry, and the appropriate ſpirit infuſed into the characters, place it beyond all competition with the ſing-ſong trifles which were then in high repute. The Duenna ſurpaſſed even the Beggars' Opera in attraction and popularity, and was performed ſeventy-five nights during the ſeaſon, while Gay's ſingular production ran only ſixty five.

Mr Sheridan's circumſtances becoming about this time more independent, and his genius having ſtruck out a line productive of fame and profit, he began to indulge in expenſive entertainments, and he found no difficulty in extending his connections in faſhionable life. "The feaſt of "reaſon, and the flow of ſoul," were ſeldom abſent from the hoſpitalities of his houſe, and they were unqueſtionably

tionably very much promoted by the ſtrength of argument and brilliancy of wit, which he could call forth in the hours of inſtructive enquiry or ſportive conviviality, as well as by the charms of Mrs Sheridan's converſation, and her faſcinating powers of voice.

Mr Garrick having reſolved to retire from the management of Drury-lane Theatre, a negociation for the purchaſe of his ſhare of the patent was entered into with him by Dr. Ford, Mr Linley, and Mr Sheridan, who, in 1776, paid the ſum of 30,000l. for it.

It now became his intereſt to apply his talents in ſupport of the theatre in which he was ſo materially concerned, and he immediately brought out the *Trip to Scarborough*, altered from Vanbrugh's comedy of the Relapſe. It was performed on the 24th of February, 1777; and, though the dialogue was much improved, and the incidents judiciouſly altered, the audience did not receive it in a very favourable manner on the firſt night of repreſentation, on account of the incorrectneſs of the performers in general. It was afterwards played to crowded houſes.

His next production was the comedy of the *School for Scandal*, which has deſervedly raiſed his fame to undiſputed pre-eminence over all the contemporary writers, and conferred, in the opinion of the foreign *literati*, a luſtre on the Britiſh comedy which it did not previouſly poſſeſs. The School for Scandal was performed on the 8th of May, 1777, and attracted from that late period to the concluſion of the ſeaſon, the moſt faſhionable and numerous audiences. A play of ſuch ſuperior merit, and written by ſo young an author, was rewarded with unqualified applauſe. The critics of that time were anxiouſly engaged in extolling the beauties with which it abounds, and ſome of them were not wanting to diſcover others, that either do not exiſt, or are ſtill unknown to the writer himſelf. The tide of public favour ran with irreſiſtible impetuoſity, and dramatic excellence, and the name of Sheridan, became ſynonimous. But, although it muſt ever rank as a finiſhed piece in the ſimplicity of plot, in the natural progreſſion of incident, in the faithful imitation of manners, in the vigorous and exact delineation of living character, and above all, in fertility of wit and felicity of expreſſion; it is to be lamented, that the author did not apply himſelf with more care to improve the heart, and ſtimulate the public mind to the cultivation of morality.

The faſhionable taſte for Scandal is indeed expoſed; but it is expoſed to the laughter, not to the contempt and deteſtation, of the audience. It produces mirth, but does not excite execration. The hypocrite, who covers his abominable deſigns with the maſk of honour and integrity, is indeed puniſhed; but the puniſhment is not commenſurate to the offence, and our abhorrence is weakened by the unſeaſonable playfulneſs of the poet's ſatire. The author is too ſtrenuous an advocate for diſſipation of manners, and the vices of libertiniſm are too ſucceſsfully defended.

Mr Sheridan appears, in a great meaſure, to have forgotten the legitimate end of dramatic compoſition, and not to have been ſufficiently ſenſible, that whatever is intended for the amuſement of ſociety at large, ſhould alſo be capable of communicating ſolid inſtruction, and producing real amendment. It has been remarked, with ſome degree of propriety, that the characters of Joſeph and Charles have been taken from Fielding's Bliſil, and Tom Jones; and that the diſguiſe aſſumed by Sir Oliver Surface has been borrowed from a ſimilar incident in Mrs Sheridan's novel. He has never publiſhed it, becauſe, as a literary production,

he says, he has no confidence in its merit: its success on the stage he ascribes to the acting of Miss Farren and Messrs. King, Palmer, and Smith.

Early in the following season, he produced the musical piece of *The Camp*, a temporary *jeu d'esprit*, which afforded much entertainment; and his *Critic*, written upon the model of the Duke of Buckingham's Rehearsal, came out on the 30th of October, 1787. The success of the Critic was complete and well deserved; and, though the subject had been very ably handled by his ingenious predecessor, he succeeded in embellishing it with so great a variety of ludicrous incidents, and introduced such extraordinary novelty of satire, as to divest it of the slightest appearance of imitation.

The lamented death of the British Roscius, in 1779, furnished Mr Sheridan with an opportunity of exercising powers of a very different nature; and he wrote the monody to the memory of Mr Garrick, which was recited at Drury-lane Theatre, by Mrs Yates, in the month of March, of the same year. The sentiments are, in general, appropriate to the occasion, and the poetry possesses strength and melody, but the effect was not adequate to the expectations of the author and his friends.

Notwithstanding the profits which he derived from his pieces, and the share he had in the theatre, which was very considerable, as he had obtained Mr Lacy's interest in the patent*, a property equally valuable with that of Mr Garrick, and of course worth, on the lowest calculation, thirty thousand pounds, his pecuniary embarrassments had considerably increased. His domestic establishment was not only very expensive, but conducted without any kind of regularity. The persuasions of Mr Fox, whose friendship he had carefully cultivated, operated with a firm conviction of his own abilities, in determining him to procure a seat in the House of Commons. For some time before he had endeavoured to qualify himself for public speaking, by declaiming at the private meetings of several of his most intimate acquaintances; and it was customary with him, like the logical disputants of antiquity, to start a subject of discussion, and *advocate* either side of the question, for the purpose of exercising his ingenuity in argument.

Mr Sheridan was, about this time, honoured with the notice of a noble Duke, now high in office, and who then possessed great influence in opposition; and an application was made, through the medium of a common friend, to obtain his Grace's nomination of Mr Sheridan for one of his boroughs. The application, however, proved fruitless, as the noble Duke had already completed his list, or placed little reliance on the parliamentary powers of his dramatic acquaintance.

Mr Sheridan was not discouraged by the disappointment, and a general election taking place, in 1780, he resolved to canvass for himself, and chose the town of Stafford for the scene of his first political operations. In the adoption of that measure, he appears to have been actuated by several important considerations. The borough of Stafford was not devoted to the interest of any particular patron; it was free from all suspicion of ministerial influence, and the arts of corruption had ever tried, without effect, to undermine the independence of the electors. At least, no legal proof

* Mr Lacy, whose property, on the death of his father, was estimated at 80,000l. is now, with a large family, in very distressed circumstances. The writer of this biographical sketch is in possession of several curious particulars with respect to the transfer of Mr Lacy's property in the theatre to Mr Sheridan, which will probably, at no very distant period, be given to the public.

proof has been yet brought forward to eſtabliſh any inſtance of corruption. One of the late members, who again offered himſelf as a candidate, had not only become unpopular, but odious to ſeveral of the leading men of Stafford.

All theſe circumſtances, ſtrengthened by a preſſing invitation, and a promiſe of the moſt zealous ſupport from a principal gentleman of the place, induced Mr Sheridan to propoſe himſelf as a candidate to repreſent the borough of Stafford in the next parliament. He accordingly proceeded to the ſpot, and was perfectly ſatisfied with the pleaſing proſpect of ſucceſs that opened to his ambition. But although he experienced uncommon diſintereſtedneſs, and great liberality of conduct in the people of Stafford, a certain degree of expence which has, for a long time, blended itſelf with the pureſt proceedings of the elective ſyſtem in this country, was found unavoidable, and our young politician's reſources were not in the moſt flouriſhing ſtate. He was ſoon convinced, that the moderate ſum of one thouſand pounds was a *ſine qua non*, which alone could bring the negotiation between the new champion of liberty and the independent electors to a ſucceſsful concluſion. The money was at length raiſed, and one of the gentlemen, who contributed to the ſupply, has been ſince liberally rewarded with an opera ſhare.

Mr Sheridan was accordingly returned for Stafford, and from the moment of his introduction into the Houſe of Commons, became a firm ſupporter of all the meaſures of oppoſition. Though he contented himſelf, in the commencement of the ſeſſion, with giving a ſilent vote againſt the miniſter, he was indefatigable without doors in ſeconding the views of his party, and in exciting the clamour of public indignation againſt the meaſures of government. He conſtantly attended popular meetings and political clubs, and his pen was employed with ſucceſs in ſeveral periodical publications. He had a conſiderable ſhare in the *Engliſhman*, which was conducted with great acrimony againſt the adminiſtration of Lord North; and when the Rockingham party came into power in 1782, his exertions were rewarded with the appointment of Under Secretary to Mr Fox, then Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

The death of the Marquis of Rockingham, and the unexpected elevation of the Earl of Shelburne to the important office of Firſt Lord of the Treaſury, completely defeated the views of oppoſition, and the ever-memorable coalition, for which even the ſtrong plea of neceſſity is but a ſorry apology, having been formed, Mr Sheridan was once more called upon to carry on literary hoſtilities againſt the new adminiſtration. The periodical work of the *Jeſuit* ſoon appeared, and ſeveral very diſtinguiſhed members of the party are confidently ſtated to have contributed to that production. A learned doctor, remarkable for his revival of the doctrine of the Greek philoſopher, Pyrrho, and more celebrated for his attachment to a great character, whoſe name will laſt, notwithſtanding his inconſiſtencies, while a ſingle admirer of ſplendid and original genius ſhall remain in the world, than for any intellectual vigour of his own, has been mentioned as one of the authors of a paper in the Jeſuit, notorious for its ſevere cenſure of an illuſtrious perſonage. The paper in queſtion attracted the attention of government, and a proſecution was ordered to be commenced againſt Mr Wilkie, the printer.

The legal proceedings were, however, carried on but ſlowly, and the coalition having gained a deciſive victory over the new-fangled adminiſtration, formed by the Shelburne party, Mr Sheridan was once more

brought into place, and appointed, in April 1788, Secretary of the Treaſury. It was extremely natural to ſuppoſe, that the Jeſuit would not be attacked by thoſe, to whoſe cauſe it had been devoted; but the ſpirit of proſecution, though allowed to ſlumber for a ſhort interval, broke out with redoubled vigour, when his Grace of Portland was ſucceeded, as Firſt Lord of the Treaſury, by Mr Pitt, and an entire change took place in men and meaſures.

The Attorney General was obliged, *ex officio*, to continue the proſecution, the ground-work of which ſtill exiſted, and Mr Wilkie, who had the magnanimity to conceal the names of the gentlemen by whom he had been employed, was ſentenced to an impriſonment of twelve months. The ſyſtem of party politics evinced in this inſtance, as it has in almoſt every other caſe, ſelfiſhneſs and ingratitude. The man who poſſeſſed the courage to expoſe his own perſon to puniſhment, and his circumſtances to ruin, in order to ſcreen thoſe by whom he had been engaged in his profeſſional purſuits, for the purpoſe of promoting their favourite end, was treated with neglect, and it will, with difficulty, be credited, that his expences have not been yet paid. It would, no doubt, be unjuſt to accuſe Mr Sheridan of having had any ſhare in the tranſaction, as his acknowledged integrity muſt exempt him from all ſuſpicion.

With what effect the talents of Mr Sheridan were exerted in the diſcharge of his official duties, while he filled the ſituations of Under Secretary of State and Joint Secretary of the Treaſury, it is immaterial to enquire. The whole of the time which he paſſed in theſe places was not quite a year, and the chief requiſites to perform the duties of them are attention, punctuality, and diſpatch—qualities in which his moſt enthuſiaſtic admirers will hardly contend for his pre-eminence. Until 1783, he appears to have been a figure introduced into the political picture, more for the purpoſe of completing the group in the back ground, than of ſtanding forward as a principal character. But the irreſiſtible impulſe of genius gave a ſudden expanſion to his powers, extricated him from the inferior eſtimation in which he was held, and placed him, if not in an equal rank with Mr Fox and Mr Burke, at leaſt, in the very next to it.

His defence of Mr Fox's celebrated Eaſt India Bill was diſtinguiſhed for logical preciſion; and though he had not, on previous occaſions, delivered his ſentiments with extraordinary ability, his ſpeech on that intereſting ſubject was ſo maſterly, as to induce the public opinion to ſelect him from the ſecond claſs of parliamentary ſpeakers. In 1785, his powers began to expand in proportion to the confidence which he acquired in debate, and his obſervations on Mr Pitt's Perfumery Bill were juſtly admired for ſplendid effuſions of wit and great force of argument. But the part he took in the conſideration of the Iriſh Propoſitions, which were brought forward during the ſame year, was peculiarly ſtriking, and raiſed his reputation as an orator to a very ſuperior degree. In calling the attention of the houſe to the fourth propoſition, he diſplayed a general knowledge of the intereſts of both kingdoms, and a depth of inveſtigation which the moſt ſanguine expectations of his friend could not have anticipated; and, from that moment, he was viewed as a formidable opponent by the preſent miniſter, and looked up to with admiration, as a principal leader of the party to which he belonged.

Mr Sheridan had many difficulties to encounter in his parliamentary life. His father was an actor, he had himſelf largely contributed to the entertainment of the public, and

was

was the manager of a theatre. The prejudices of mankind, however ridiculous, are too often victorious over the claims of genuine merit, and would have, perhaps, prevailed in intimidating any other perſon than the man againſt whom they were, in this inſtance, directed. Fully convinced of his decided ſuperiority over birth and fortune, he proceeded, regardleſs of perſonal reflections; and if his opponents ſucceeded in irritating him by the aſperity of their alluſions, he met them with manly reſolution, chaſtiſed them with the laſh of legitimate ſatire, or held them up to univerſal ridicule in burſts of extemporaneous wit, that have never been equalled in the Britiſh ſenate. The conduct of the Premier, in his ungnarded alluſions, to Mr Sheridan's dramatic purſuits was ſeverely puniſhed; and that dignified manner which ſhould mark the behaviour of the firſt ſtateſman in Europe, ſitting in the firſt aſſembly of Europe, was, for a moment, transformed into the quarrelſome petulance of the *angry boy*. The correction was productive of ſalutary effects, and Mr Sheridan has completely triumphed over the ſplenetic and paltry efforts of his opponents to check his talents, and degrade his dublic character.

He was rapidly approaching to perfection, as a public ſpeaker, and the impeachment of Mr Haſtings ſupplied him with an opportunity of diſplaying powers which were then unrivalled, but have ſince rather declined than ſuſtained themſelves with equal vigour. His ſpeech delivered in the Houſe of Commons, in April, 1787, on the eighth article, as ſtated in the order laid down by Mr Burke, relative to "money corruptly and illegally taken," was allowed to equal the moſt argumentative and impaſſioned orations that had ever been addreſſed to the judgment and feelings of the Britiſh parliament. He fixed the uninterrupted attention of the houſe for upwards of five hours, confirmed the minds of thoſe who wavered, and produced co-operation from a quarter, which, it was ſuppoſed, would have been hoſtile to any further proceeding.

Mr Sheridan ſeems, at this period, to have been convinced of the neceſſity of indefatigable application and perſevering induſtry, to ſupport the ſplendid fame he had acquired, and accordingly prepared himſelf, with unremitting aſſiduity, to perform his official duties as one of the managers of the proſecution, inſtituted by the repreſentatives of the people againſt Mr Haſtings, and carried on before the ſupreme tribunal of the nation.

In the long examination of Mr Middleton, he gave decided proofs of a ſtrong and diſcriminating mind; but when, in June 1788, he ſummed up the evidence on the charge, reſpecting the confinement and impriſonment of the Princeſſes of Oude, and the ſeizure of their treaſures, his ſuperiority over his colleagues was eſtabliſhed by univerſal conſent. His mind, indeed, appears to have been elevated by the importance of the ſubject; and he conceived its various relations with a perſpicuity that was embelliſhed by the nobleſt effuſions of eloquence—

"Animo vidit; ingenio complexus eſt; eloquentia ornavit."

But however admirable his ſpeech may be now conſidered as a compoſition, there were, at that time, ſeveral circumſtances of magnitude and ſingularity, that conſpired to give it a celebrity, which poſterity will ſcarcely admit it to poſſeſs. To form a juſt opinion of this memorable oration, which occupied the attention of the court, and excited the admiration of the public, for five hours, it would be neceſſary to have heard Mr Sheridan himſelf; and, to thoſe who have not witneſſed the correctneſs, ſtrength, and animation of

of his elocution, it will be ſufficient to repeat what was ſaid by Eſchines to the people of Rhodes in praiſe of the oration which had cauſed his baniſhment—"What applauſes would you not have conferred, had you heard Demoſthenes deliver it himſelf?"

It is difficult to ſelect any part of it as the ſubject of peculiar encomium. The addreſs, with which he arranged his materials; the art and force with which he anticipated objections; the unexampled ingenuity with which he commented on the evidence, and the natural boldneſs of his imagery, are equally entitled to panegyric. He combined the three kinds of eloquence. He was clear and unadorned—diffuſe and pathetic—animated and vehement. There was nothing ſuperfluous—no affected turn—no glittering point—no falſe ſublimity. Compaſſion and indignation were alternately excited, and the wondrous effects related of the eloquence of Greece and Rome were almoſt revived.

Soon after this great æra in the public life of Mr Sheridan, the deplorable indiſpoſition of his Majeſty, which plunged the country into a ſtate of the deepeſt diſtreſs, led to the diſcuſſion of a queſtion, exceeding in political magnitude every other national occurrence from the revolution of 1688 down to that time. The miniſtry and oppoſition eſſentially differed with reſpect to the means to be adopted for ſupplying the defect of the perſonal exerciſe of the royal authority, and Mr Sheridan took a leading part in the attempts which were made to declare the Prince of Wales regent, without ſuch reſtrictions as Parliament ſhould think fit to impoſe. The favour in which he was held at Carleton Houſe was certainly ſuperior to that enjoyed by the moſt diſtinguiſhed members of the party, and his conduct occaſioned ſuſpicions that have never been completely removed. His Royal Highneſs was very much in the habit of conſulting Mr Sheridan, and his anſwer to Mr Pitt's letter, with reſpect to the reſtrictions on the regency, which was allowed to be dignified, cautious, and temperate, has been principally aſcribed to the prudent counſels of this gentleman.

Mr Sheridan's zealous interference in ſupport of his patron is, perhaps, the only inſtance in which he can be charged with political inconſiſtency. The ſpirit of party, and the ſtrong prejudices of the moment, are now conſigned to oblivion; and, it may be fairly aſked, whether he, or any other declared advocate of the rights of the people, acted conſiſtently in oppoſing the following reſolution, which was propoſed by Mr Pitt, and paſſed by the Britiſh Parliament:—

"Reſolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that it is the right and duty of the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, and Commons of Great Britain, now aſſembled, and lawfully, fully, and freely repreſenting all the eſtates of the people of this realm, to provide the means of ſupplying the defect of the perſonal exerciſe of the Royal Authority, ariſing from his Majeſty's indiſpoſition, in ſuch a manner as the exigency of the caſe may appear to require."

Mr Sheridan's objection to the reſolution did not ariſe from any ſtatement, contained in it, reſpecting the *full* and *free* repreſentation of the people, but he and his friends argued againſt the power of both houſes, in any caſe, to limit the authority of the regent, and contended, that the immediate nomination of the heir-apparent ought to take place, as a matter of conſtitutional right. Thoſe who are ſincere admirers of the Britiſh conſtitution, as derived from the legitimate ſource of authority, will not

not readily coincide in the doctrines advanced upon the occaſion, by the leading members of oppoſition. But the proſpect of approaching power can quiet the moſt conſcientious ſcruples, and ſilence ſtatements that would otherwiſe have been proclaimed as the unalienable rights of Engliſhmen, and the palladium of public ſecurity.

While his Majeſty laboured under the awful viſitation of Providence, it would be an endleſs, and indeed, a painful taſk, to deſcribe the dark intrigues and cabals, carried on to encreaſe the ſtrength of oppoſition. Every art was practiſed, every trick tried, to add to the number of thoſe who were willing to fall proſtrate before the riſing ſun, and the artifices employed were, in ſeveral inſtances, ſucceſsful, in ſeducing even the minds of perſons, who had enjoyed the confidence, and ſhared the munificence of their ſovereign. The King, reduced to the moſt lamentable ſtate, which humanity can conceive, was—

"Deſerted at his utmoſt need,
"By thoſe his former bounty fed."

Several meetings were held at C—r—d houſe, and among the viſitors were the Duke of Q——y, the Marquis of L——n, and Lord M—ſ—y. Mr Sheridan was a conſtant attendant, and an illuſtrious perſonage condeſcended to aſſiſt at councils, which, it muſt be granted, were more influenced by a true ſenſe of public good than by any ſelfiſh and intereſted motives. The plans of the party were, however, fortunately baffled by the unexpected recovery of his Majeſty, and their reinſtatement in place was deferred to a more auſpicious moment.

Mr Sheridan has ſince continued a ſtrenuous opponent of the meaſures of adminiſtration, and is now, in conſequence of Mr Fox's ſeceſſion, placed at the head of oppoſition. With the ſingle exception of his conduct on the queſtion of the regency, his parliamentary life cannot be accuſed of inconſiſtency. He profeſſed in common with moſt of his friends, an enthuſiaſtic admiration of the French revolution, and conſidered the conſtitution it had formed, as a glorious fabric of human wiſdom, erected for the protection of human happineſs; but when he ſaw that conſtitution defaced and polluted by the frantic and murderous policy of the ſucceſſive rulers of France, he readily concurred in reprobating crimes, which were deſtructive of freedom and ſocial happineſs, and directly repugnant to the principles on which the revolution was originally effected.

He has ever been the zealous ſupporter of parliamentary reform, and the uniform friend of the liberty of the preſs and religious toleration. In financial conſiderations, in our political and commercial relations with Ireland, and more particularly in every important diſcuſſion relative to conſtitutional ſubjects, he has evinced great depth of enquiry, and acuteneſs of diſcrimination. He has frequently riſen ſuperior to the ſelfiſh drudgery of a mere partiſan, and his ſpirited conduct during the awful criſis of the naval mutiny, received the thanks of the miniſter, and will be long remembered with gratitude by the nation. He expreſſed his conviction, that, whatever difference in political ſentiments might prevail among the members of the Houſe of Commons, the moment was come, when his majeſty had an undoubted right to call upon all his ſubjects of every rank and deſcription, for their zealous co-operation in ſupporting the due execution of the laws, and in giving every poſſible efficiency to the meaſures of government.

Mr Sheridan's voice is ſtrong and diſtinct, but his delivery is often precipitate, and his manner unimportant. He wants the dignity of Mr Pitt,

Pitt and the fire of Mr Fox; but in the ingenuity of obſervation, and the felicity of reply, he is not inferior to either of them in their happieſt moments. He excels in raillery, which, at once elegant and ſevere, is peculiarly ſuited to the ſenate. Tho' he ſeems cautiouſly to avoid the uſe of figurative diction and ſplendid imagery in his ſpeeches, his celebrated oration on the trial of Mr Haſtings is an ample teſtimony of his ability to introduce them with the moſt appropriate effect.

It cannot be denied, that his propenſity to epigrammatic point and humourous alluſion frequently exceeds the bounds of propriety, and hurries him to a levity of remark that is at variance with the gravity of the ſubject in diſcuſſion. We laugh indeed for the moment, but ſoon condemn the ſpeaker for trifling with a great object of national conſideration. When, for inſtance, on the motion for repealing the act for Suſpending the Habeas Corpus Act, and on the meaſure for arming the country, in conſequence of his majeſty's meſſage, he has talked of "an army of ſix men, commanded by a taylor, and encamped in a back garret," and of "foraging in fruit ſhops, parading in Piccadilly, and taking the field in Rotten row;"—who can avoid condemning what certainly is not authorized by the artifice, much leſs by the art, of eloquence? The rules of public conduct, like the laws of the drama, are founded in conſiſtency; and with the latter Mr Sheridan cannot be unacquainted,—

"Singula quæque locum teneant ſortita decenter."

There has appeared of late in his ſpeeches a negligence, that is evidently cauſed by momentary indolence, or the want of previous application; and the obſervation made by the firſt ſtateſman of the country, that "however greatly he admired the talents of Mr Sheridan, he was confident that gentleman might exert them with more effect," is perfectly correct. "Honied aſſent, ſo pleaſant to the taſte of man," has ever been peculiarly grateful to Mr Sheridan's feelings, and a cheer from the oppoſition bench, excited by ſome brilliant effuſion of wit, has often ſuppreſſed in him any farther diſplay of ability in debate. He had gained what he ſo much courted, and he reſolved to preſerve it undiminiſhed.

Mrs Sheridan died in June, 1792, and he has a ſon by that lady, who poſſeſſes conſiderable abilities. In 1795, he married Miſs Ogle, youngeſt daughter of the Reverend Doctor Newton Ogle, Dean of Wincheſter. The iſſue of his ſecond marriage is alſo a ſon.

His conduct as manager and principal proprietor of the firſt theatre in the kingdom, and his punctuality in the diſcharge of the duties contracted by him in that ſituation have rarely been the ſubject of praiſe.

In private life, Mr Sheridan is one of the moſt entertaining and inſtructive companions in the kingdom. His converſation abounds in witty ſimilitudes, humorous alluſions, and lively repartee; and when any ſubject of enlarged inveſtigation is brought forward, the treaſures of general learning, with which he has ſtored his mind, are proportionate to the exigency of the moment. It is, perhaps, in the knowledge of human nature that he ſurpaſſes all his contemporaries. His ſagacity has been particularly exerciſed in diſcovering the character and propenſities of his acquaintances, or of thoſe with whom he has any buſineſs to tranſact, and he generally ſucceeds in converting this kind of knowledge to his own advantage.

After a retirement of twenty years from the ſtage, Mr Sheridan came forward, at the end of laſt ſeaſon, in the humble ſituation of the editor of Kotzebue,

Kotzebue, the celebrated German dramatiſt, and appears, in that inſtance to have been more actuated by his intereſt as a manager, than by the generous feelings of a writer, emulous of laſting fame. To gratify the public taſte for ſcenes of exquiſite ſenſibility, ſupported by incidents, ſometimes impoſſible, and, in almoſt every caſe, improbable; and to ſtrengthen the exhibition by the attractions of ſtriking machinery, ſcenic grandeur, and appropriate muſic, was evidently the object which he had in view in that ſtrange degradation of ſuperior talents. The preſſing wants of the theatre, and of thoſe dependent upon its ſucceſs, called for inſtantaneous relief, and the moſt likely mode of procuring it was an unqualified compliance with popular abſurdity.

"For we who live to pleaſe, muſt pleaſe to live,"

is the only apology he can make, for the proſtitution of his muſe.

It would ſeem, that Mr Sheridan had altogether forgotten he had written the *Critic*; for there are very few ſcenes or paſſages in *Pizarro*, which can eſcape the juſt ſatire and humorous ridicule contained in that production. He has, indeed, condeſcended, in his alteration of the *Death of Rolla*, to revive the character of the ingenious Mr *Puff*; for the moſt prejudiced mind muſt feel how very pointedly Mr Sheridan's obſervations in the Critic apply to the favourite tragedy of Pizarro:—"Now then for my magnificence! my battle! my noiſe! and my proceſſion!—Smaller things muſt give way to a ſtriking ſcene at the opening; that's the rule:—A play is not to ſhew occurrences that happen every day, but things juſt ſo ſtrange, that though they never did, they might happen." But the criticiſms of Mr Sheridan were no longer remembered; ſound and ſhow triumphed over common ſenſe; the numerous admirers of ſenſibility, tortured to exceſs, were gratified; the votaries of pompous exhibition and romance were indulged in their favourite paſſion; and Pizarro, with all its defects, recommended by the joint reputation of Kotzebue and Sheridan, attracted more numerous and faſhionable audiences than have ever attended an Engliſh theatre.

The ſpeech of Rolla, exhorting the Peruvians to defend their king and country, their civil and religious inſtitutions, againſt a ferocious band of lawleſs invaders, was highly inſtrumental to the ſucceſs of the piece, and it is the only paſſage of the play to which Mr Sheridan has an excluſive claim. The appeal to the people in ſupport of their rights and national independence, is bold and animating. The ſtriking image of the vulture and the lamb, is, however, uſed with more effect in his ſpeech on the impeachment of Mr Haſtings; but his right to borrow from himſelf cannot be queſtioned.

The genius of the German dramatiſt is unqueſtionably of the firſt order. In conducting a paſſion through its moſt intricate mazes, he is, perhaps, unequalled, and he ſeldom fails to produce emotions of the moſt agonizing kind. But probability, the genuine ſource of concern and dramatic feeling, is too frequently violated. An inſtant's reflection is ſufficient to expoſe the deluſion of the ſcene, and deſtroy the intereſt which the ſkill of the poet creates.

Mr Sheridan muſt be convinced, that, with the exception of Rolla's patriotic harangue, Pizarro is more indebted for its popularity to the merits of the original, to the actor, the machiniſt, the painter, and the compoſer, than to any alterations he has made, or to any judgment he has evinced in adapting it to the Engliſh ſtage.

It is to be lamented, that he has, by this motley exhibition, degraded

graded his reputation as the firſt dramatic writer of the country, and ſunk himſelf to a level with the play-wrights of the day, to whom profit is every thing, and fame nothing. It remains for him to ſhake off that indolence, which appears to have become conſtitutional, and make a ſatisfactory atonement, by ſome work of genius, for his mercenary conduct in confirming the vitiated ſtate of public taſte, againſt which he contended, in 1779, with ſo much energy and ſucceſs.

THE PRINCE OF GEELAUN AND THE KING MOUSE: A PERSIAN TALE.

From Mr Scott's Tranſlation of the Bahar Danuſh.

ANCIENT hiſtorians have related, that in paſt times, owing to the viciſſitudes of fortune, and the revolutions of the ſkies, in a wilderneſs on the confines of Geelaun, a mouſe being ſeated on the throne of empire, extended his command over all the wild beaſts and reptiles of the vicinity. A fox being entruſted with the important office of his prime miniſter, exerted the utmoſt activity in conducting and regulating the affairs of his kingdom.

By chance, a caravan paſſing through the wilderneſs, a camel belonging to it, very much fatigued, ſunk under his burden, and was left behind in the deſert. When he had forgotten the ſtrokes of his driver, and the painfulneſs of his pack-ſaddle, he began to graze, and in a ſhort time became ſleek and fat. The fox having obtained intelligence of his ſituation, repreſented it to the monarch mouſe, ſaying, "In the dominions of your majeſty, a camel of broken *mahar**, delivered from the burden of the pack-ſaddle, has taken up his abode; and in that part of the wood, particularly appropriated to the royal uſe, commits depredations on the trees and fruits of which your majeſty delights to eat. Whatever pleaſes his taſte, without fear or dread, he devours. Without your majeſty's permiſſion, his eſtabliſhment in theſe dominions cannot accord with the rules of policy; becauſe, if ſuch a ſtrong and bulky animal ſhould long roam thus at his pleaſure, in proceſs of time he will grow powerful, and may entertain the rebellious deſign of wreſtling the empire from your majeſty. It is therefore adviſeable that your majeſty ſummon him to the preſence, that he may be deterred from ſuch conduct. If he ſubmits in humility to your authority, your majeſty may admit him among your dependants, and confer favours upon him, and it may be for your intereſt to draw into the royal ſervice ſuch a powerful animal; but if, proud of his bulk and ſtrength, he refuſes liege obedience, it will be proper, before he has acquired much power, or conſpired with the factious, to prevent his deſigns by ſome ſtratagem."

The king mouſe, approving his prudent vizier's advice, commanded the attendance of the camel, and the fox undertaking the buſineſs himſelf, by art and cunning drew the *mahar* threw the noſe of the camel, and conducted him to the imperial court. The camel, when he ſaw only a mouſe, was not impreſſed with his dignity, and paced off again without notice; upon which the little king, feeling this affront as a cauſe of degradation in the eyes of his courtiers and dependents, thus addreſſed the fox:

"O loyal vizier, although thy advice is doubtleſs always founded on fidelity and attachment, yet notwithſtanding thy wiſdom and ſage policy, this affair has turned out contrary to the laws of propriety. As the form of our gracious perſon is ſomewhat diminutive, though thoſe who have penetrating minds, and are judges of intrinſic worth, may conceive the dignity of our nature, yet thoſe who judge only from appearances have not that happineſs. The ſtupid camel was not worthy of the honour of admiſſion to our preſence, and the bringing of him to our court was departing from the circle of prudence. Perhaps if he had not ſeen us, he might have had ſome dread of us in his mind, but now it is vaniſhed, he is become proud, and the unreflecting partizans of faction have now

* A *mahar*, is a bridle formed of a ſtick paſſing through the noſtrils, to each end of which a cord is tied.

now the means of diſturbance and rebellion."

The fox replied, "Let not your majeſty be alarmed by this unlucky accident, for though this beaſt is ſtrong, and from his crooked nature has ſtrength in his neck, yet, agreeably to the maxim, that every overgrown body is a fool, he is not endowed with wiſdom. Hence it is that an infant, putting the mahar through his noſtrils, leads him where he pleaſes. With all his ſtrength, he is a coward at heart. I will therefore ſpeedily ſubject him to your majeſty's authority, and make him ſubmit to rank among your dependants."

In the mean time, the camel, with a contented mind, roamed through the wilderneſs, and lived in perfect eaſe and ſatisfaction, while the fox was daily contriving expedients, and laying ſnares to entangle him. At length, the camel one day, out of greedineſs, the vileſt of all faults, lifting up his head, browſed the branches of a tree, and, the ſtring of his mahar entangling in them, his head remained hanging. The unfortunate beaſt began to cry out; when the fox, learning his condition, acquainted the monarch mouſe, who, riſing from his throne, advanced with joyful exultation. Aſcending the tree, and ſitting on the branch near the camel, he vauntingly addreſſed him, ſaying, "Happy beaſt! that feaſteth thus on delicious fruits!" The fox next exclaimed, "Ignorant wretch, ſuch is the conſequence of thy diſobedience. Hadſt thou bowed thy head in ſubmiſſion to his majeſty, and ſought an aſylum under the ſhade of his protection, thou hadſt not this day, with ſuch diſgrace and helpleſſneſs, been taken captive in the ſnare. There is now no other alternative but to reſign to thy fate."

The camel now, from his great folly and cowardice, began to cry out, and ſaid; "Though great crimes have been committed by me, yet I now aſk pardon for my faults. With inward fidelity, I proſtrate myſelf at his majeſty's throne, and ſeek refuge under the ſhade of your lordſhip's bounty. If, forgiving my errors and offences, you will deliver me from this calamity, and receive me under the ſhadow of your mercy, it will not be deviating from your auguſt virtues."

The mouſe, having agreed to the camel's requeſt, tore in pieces with his teeth the rope of the mahar, entangled among the branches, and relieved him from his diſtreſs. The ſtupid long-necked animal, having returned proper thanks, bowed his head to the authority of the little long-tailed, ſhort-necked ſovereign, and, with all his bulk and ſuperior ſize, ſubmitted to the mouſe; who, ſwelling with exultation, could ſcarcely contain himſelf in his hole. He ordered the camel to graze all day at his pleaſure, and at night attend at the preſence, to guard the royal apartments.

Some time after this, the wood-cutters of the prince of Ceelaun, ſeeing the camel in the foreſt without an owner, ſeized and conducted him to the prince's ſtables; of which the fox being informed, repreſented the affair to the ſublime audience. The mouſe king was enraged at the occurrence, and the next day, when the wood-cutters returned to work, addreſſed them from his hole, ſaying, "It is unbecoming a noble mind and a generous ſoul to lay the foundation of enmity and contention, without any cauſe of diſpute. Wiſdom dictates that your maſter return me the camel, and avoid ſhedding the blood of the innocent. If this is not done, let him prepare for war, for I will not by any means depart from my claim." The woodcutters were overwhelmed with aſtoniſhment at this terrific addreſs from the mouſe, which had not the leaſt accordance with his nature; and, as a miracle, repreſented it to the prince; who laughed at it as ridiculous, and forbad his courtiers to talk of it.

When intelligence of this reached the king of the mice, he addreſſed the fox, by way of learning his opinion, ſaying, "It cannot be any ways conſiſtent with dignity and empire to ſubmit to theſe affronts; therefore, our wiſe reſolve is taken, to call together the commanders of our forces, and prepare in the beſt manner for this important undertaking. Having collected the requiſites for warfare and defence, we will march to battle." The vizier agreeing in opinion with his majeſty, an army ſo vaſt, that the moſt ſubtile arithmeticians confeſſed themſelves incapable to count its numbers, ſoon ſurrounded the imperial throne. The whole plain of the country was covered with mice.

Firſt of all, by direction of the vizier, he was reſolved to undermine the treaſury of the enemy, and carry off all his money. This was effected in a ſhort time; ſo that nothing remained in the vaults of the prince of Ceelaun, but torn bags, and mouſe-eaten cheſts; while the

treaſurers had not the leaſt ſuſpicion of the theft. This important object being happily attained, the king commanded his vizier to look out for ſome of the ſons of *men* graced with ability, who might take upon him the further operations of the war, and raiſe an army of mortals for his majeſty's ſervice.

By chance, a diſtreſſed ſoldier of fortune, with his brethren and dependents, having left his home in ſearch of employment, paſſed through the deſert, where he beheld numbers of mice ſkipping about, and playing, with golden coins in their mouths. The officer, much diſtreſſed, and ſo poor that he would have let fly his arrow at the ſmall morſel of a cat, longed vehemently to ſeize the money from the little animals. Suddenly, a venerable mouſe popping his head from his hole, addreſſed him, ſaying, "My lord, if you deſire to enjoy the goods of the world, in ſpite of fortune, and acquire much money, enter into our ſervice, and at once be rich in ſilver and gold."

The young captain, regarding the opportunity as moſt happy, now found his ſtar fortunate. Through the mediation of the mouſe, he was introduced to the whiſkered monarch; who agreed to allow him a ſum, far exceeding his hopes or deſerts, for which he ſigned an immediate order on his ſecret treaſures; and having conferred upon him the important ſtation of generaliſſimo, recommended the utmoſt ſpeed in levying forces, and collecting ſtores of war.

The officer immediately wrote to all his friends and comrades of his wonderful adventure, obſerving, that at a time when virtue and liberality had deſerted from among mankind, encouragement and generous treatment were only to be found in the ſervice of the king of mice, who poſſeſſed immenſe ſecret treaſures and buried hoards of wealth. Baſely-minded men, who are naturally the ſlaves of money, regarding the opportunity of acquiring it as moſt precious, now collected from all quarters; ſo that in a ſhort time a great army was embodied, and all the requiſites for offenſive operations in readineſs.

The king of the mice, attended by his motley hoſt, now marched from his ſubterraneous capital, and ſounded the drums of valour in the field of war. The prince of Geelaun, rouſed by the alarm, ſummoned his miniſters and generals to an aſſembly, and conſulted with them, ſaying, that "though in this world of viciſſitudes ſtrange events occur, yet ſuch a ridiculous one as the preſent is very vexatious. To be engaged againſt a mouſe is truly diſhonouring. However, having conſidered well what is neceſſary to be done, let us form our plans."

The council repreſented, that ſince the enemy had commenced hoſtilities, there was no remedy but to give them battle. Upon which the prince, ordering out his troops, commanded his ſtores to be opened, and the ſums neceſſary for warlike diſburſements to be iſſued: but when the gates of his treaſury were unlocked, not a veſtige of the ſtolen money remained. In this dilemma, the prince for the preſent ſatisfied his troops with promiſes, and marching from his capital, planted his ſtandard in oppoſition to that of the enemy, on the field of battle.

At ſun-ſet, the king of the mice commanded his body-guards to execute a ſecret expedition which he had committed to them. The army of mice, more numerous than ſwarms of piſmires, or flights of locuſts, having in the night entered the enemy's camp, gnawed to pieces with their teeth the leathers of the ſtirrups, the reins of the bridles, the parchment of the drums, the bow-ſtrings, and, in like manner, whatever they found made of leather or cloth. Having completely finiſhed their deſigns, they returned triumphant to the camp of their ſovereign; who, at this important criſis, drawing out his human allies in line of battle, marched at their head, and commanded them to diſplay their valour like heroes.

The ſpies of the prince informed him of the motions of the enemy to ſurprize his camp; upon which he commanded the heralds and generals, to prepare the various diviſions of the army, and make ready for battle. The troops, on haſtening to form, were confounded at the damage done to their ſaddles and weapons, and panic-ſtricken at their forlorn condition. The bands of the ſovereign mouſe, regarding the confuſion of the enemy, as the forerunner of victory and ſucceſs, charged with furious valour, and in an inſtant made whole ſquadrons a mercileſs ſacrifice to their ſharp ſabres. The ſurvivors made their eſcape. The prince, with much difficulty and diſgrace, having eſcaped from the field, ſhut himſelf up in his citadel; leaving all his effects, tents, and royal equipage, an offering to the plunder of the conquerors.

The prince next diſpatched an ambaſſador, and requeſted that, without the

ſeizure

ſeizure of his country, he might be received under the ſhadow of his protection; and the king of mice, notwithſtanding the meanneſs of his nature, agreeably to the axioms of the liberal, practiſing the laws of generoſity, and diſplaying magnanimity, ſent back all the plunder, and ſaid, "Our motive for kindling the flames of ſlaughter was not the conqueſt of your dominions, but the reſtoration of our camel."

The prince eſteeming this demand as moſt auſpicious, having caparizoned the camel in gorgeous houſings, trappings ſet with jewels, and a ſilken mahar, diſpatched him to the preſence of the king of mice, and offering many apologies, had a pardon granted him. The king of mice, having returned victorious and triumphant to his ſubterraneous capital, diſmiſſed his human auxiliaries with ſatisfactory rewards; and the camel, as before the war, was allowed to forage at large in the wilderneſs, having the higheſt rank of nobility conferred upon him by his ſovereign; who, from his unexpected ſucceſs, exalted his head to the ſummit of the ſkies, and notwithſtanding his ſhortneſs of neck, acted as if cats were not in exiſtence.

If the prince of Geelaun, inſtead of contemning the mouſe, had prepared to repel the enemy, by a very little attention, all this diſgrace and humiliation might have been prevented. Had he preferred conciliation, that depended only on a ſingle camel; or if he had bent his attention properly to the deſtruction of his enemy, one cat would have effected the object.

The prince, however, deviating from the maxims of the prudent (who adviſe that an enemy ſhould never be deſpiſed) and purſuing the paths of negligence and ſelfconceit, he ſuffered the evil conſequences of ſuch conduct.

POETRY.

Introduction to the Tale of the Dark Ladie.

BY S. T. COLERIDGE.

O Leave the lily on its ſtem,
O leave the roſe upon the ſpray;
O leave the elder bloom, fair maids!
And liſten to my lay.

A cypreſs and a myrtle bough,
This morn around my harp you twin'd,
Becauſe it faſhion'd mournfully,
Its murmurs in the wind.

And now a tale of love and woe,
A woeful tale of love I ſing;
Hark, gentle maidens, hark, it ſighs,
And trembles on the ſtring.

But moſt, my own dear Genevieve,
It ſighs and trembles moſt for thee;
O come and hear what cruel wrongs
Befel the dark Ladie.

Few ſorrows hath ſhe of her own,
My life, my joy, my Genevieve,
She loves me beſt whene'er I ſing
The ſongs that make her grieve.

All thoughts, all paſſions, all delights,
Whatever ſtirs this mortal frame;
All are but miniſters of love,
And feed his ſacred flame.

O ever in my waking dreams,
I dwell upon that happy hour,
When midway on the mount I ſat,
Beſide the ruin'd tower.

The moonſhine ſtealing o'er the ſcene,
Had blended with the light of eve,
And ſhe was there, my hope, my joy,
My own dear Genevieve.

She lean'd againſt the armed man,
The ſtatue of the armed knight;
She ſtood and liſten'd to my harp,
Amid the lingering light.

I play'd a ſad and doleful air,
I ſang an old and moving ſtory,
An old rude ſong, that fitted well
The ruin, wild and hoary.

She liſtened with a flitting bluſh,
With downcaſt eyes and modeſt grace;
For well ſhe knew I could not chooſe,
But gaze upon her face.

I told her of the knight that wore
Upon his ſhield a burning brand,
And how for ten long years he woo'd
The Ladie of the land.

I told her how he pin'd; and ah!
The deep, the low, the pleading tone,
With which I ſang another's love,
Interpreted my own.

She liſtened with a flitting bluſh,
With downcaſt eyes and modeſt grace;
And ſhe forgave me that I gaz'd
Too fondly on her face.

But

But when I told the cruel ſcorn,
That crazed this bold and lovely knight,
And how he roam'd the mountain woods,
Nor reſted day nor night

And how he croſſed the woodman's paths,
Through briars, and ſwampy moſſes beat,
How boughs rebending ſcourg'd his limbs,
And low ſtubs gor'd his feet.

How ſometimes, from the ſavage den,
And ſometimes from the darkſome ſhade,
And ſometimes ſtarting up at once,
In green and ſunny glade,

There came and look'd him in the face,
An angel beautiful and bright;
And how he knew it was a fiend,
This miſerable knight;

And how unknowing what he did,
He leapt amid a lawleſs band,
And ſav'd from outrage worſe than death,
The Ladie of the land;

And how ſhe wept and claſp'd his knees,
And how ſhe tended him in vain,
And meekly ſtrove to expiate
The ſcorn that craz'd his brain;

And how ſhe nurs'd him in a cave,
And how his madneſs went away,
When on the yellow foreſt leaves,
A dying man he lay.

His dying words but when I reach'd,
That tendereſt ſtrain of all the ditty,
My faltering voice and paſſing harp
Diſturb'd her ſoul with pity.

All impulſes of ſoul and ſenſe,
Had thrill'd my guiltleſs Genevieve;
The muſic and the doleful tale,
The rich and balmy eve.

And hopes and fears that kindle hope,
An undiſtinguiſhable throng;
And gentle wiſhes long ſubdued,
Subdued and cherish'd long.

She wept with pity and delight,
She bluſh'd with love, and maiden ſhame,
And like the murmurs of a dream,
I heard her breathe my name.

I ſaw her boſom heave and ſwell,
Heave and ſwell with inward ſighs;
I could not chooſe but love to ſee
Her gentle boſom riſe.

Her wet cheek glow'd, ſhe ſtept aſide,
As conſcious of my look ſhe ſtept,
Then ſuddenly with timorous eye,
She flew to me and wept.

She half inclos'd me with her arms,
She preſs'd me with a meek embrace,
And bending back her head, look'd up,
And gaz'd upon my face.

'Twas partly love and partly fear,
And partly 'twas a baſhful art,
That I might rather feel than ſee,
The ſwelling of her heart.

I calm'd her fears, and ſhe was calm,
And told her love with virgin pride,
And ſo I won my Genevieve,
My bright and beauteous bride.

And now once more a tale of woe,
A woeful tale of love I ſing,
For thee my Genevieve it ſighs,
And trembles on the ſtring.

When laſt I ſang the cruel ſcorn,
That craz'd this bold and lovely knight;
And how he roam'd the mountain woods,
Nor reſted day or night.

I promis'd thee a ſiſter tale,
Of man's perfidious cruelty;
Come then and hear what cruel wrong,
Befel the dark Ladie.

ODE FOR THE NEW YEAR *.

By H. J. Pye, Eſq. Poet-Lauret.

INCESSANT down the ſtream of Time,
And days, and years, and ages, roll,
Speeding through Error's iron clime
To dark Oblivion's goal;
Loſt in the gulf of night profound,
No eye to mark their ſhadowy bound,
Unleſs the deed of high renown,
The warlike chief's illuſtrious crown,
Shed o'er the darkling void a dubious fame,
And gild the paſſing hour with ſome immortal name.

Yet, evaneſcent as the fleeting cloud,
Driv'n by the wild winds o'er the varying ſkies,
Are all the glories of the great and proud,
On Rumour's idle breath that faintly riſe
A thouſand garbs their forms aſſume,
Woven in vain Conjecture's loom;
Their dyes a thouſand hues diſplay,
Sporting in Fancy's fairy ray;
Changing with each uncertain blaſt,
Till, melting from the eyes at laſt,
The ſhadowy vapours fly before the wind,
Sink into viewleſs air, " nor leave a track behind "

But

* Introductory ſtanzas of the *Carmen Seculare.*

But if the raptur'd train whom Heaven inſpires
Of glory to record each deathleſs meed,
Tune to heroic worth their golden lyres,
And give to memory each godlike deed,
Then ſhall the eternal guerdon wait,
The actions of the wiſe and great;—
While as from black Oblivion's ſway
They bear the mighty name away,
And waft it, borne on pinion high,
With joyful carol to the ſky,
Sage Hiſtory, with eye ſevere,
Tracing aloft their bold career,
Clears the rich tale from Fiction's ſpecious grace,
And builds her ſacred lore on Truth's eternal baſe.

THE HERMIT BOY.

AFORES T's deep gloom was the noiſeleſs retreat
From the follies and vices of life,
Of a ſage whoſe tired heart could in uniſon beat,
To no joy of the living, ſave fellowſhip ſweet
With one only companion, his wife.

Long time here they lived, in this deſolate nook,
Forgotten their woes as a dream;
Green herbs were their food, and their drink the clear brook,
That by their lone cot its meandering took;
Their bed was the flag of the ſtream.

Heaven ſent them a boy, only pledge of their love,
But denied him a mother to know;
'Twas her laſt fondeſt wiſh that her infant might prove
Seclufion's ſure bleſſings, nor ever remove
To a world of temptation and woe.

Death came, and beneath the tall graſs was ſhe laid,
That waved by the ſide of the cot,
Here the good man his viſits at morn and eve paid,
Her grave with ſweet flowrets he duly array'd,
And it ſeem'd to aſſuage his hard lot.

To his wife's laſt injunction the father long true,
Each inquiſitive ſally withſtood;
His ſon, now a youth, thought no other but two,
Himſelf, and his father; the vital air drew;
And the world was compris'd in a wood.

They roved thro' the thickets and glades all the day,
And repoſed when the ſhadows fell faſt:
Ere the ſun drank the dew from the glittering ſpray,
In the early grey dawn they together would ſtray,
To ſeek for their blameleſs repaſt.

At noon, as it droop'd on the heath that was nigh,
The ſage mark'd the violet and ſaid,
Juſt ſo when the ſun of proſperity's high,
Does virtue firſt bloſſom, then wither and die,
For want of obſcurity's ſhade.

But ſee, cried the youth, yon grey alder beneath,
One, beauteous in hue and in form;
Yet it can't be compared with the flower on the heath,
For it ſcents not the air with its odorous breath,
Tho' defended from ſunſhine and ſtorm.

The father ſtood muſing in conſcious ſurpriſe,
At the love which ſimplicity taught;
Yet trembled for fear of the doubtful diſguiſe,
Which hides even truth from the ken of the wiſe;
And puzzles the tremulous thought.

But, my boy, ſtill in ſecret, he cried, will I try,
From the waſte of exiſtence to ſave;
Where the phantoms of pleaſure dance thick to the eye,
But the wretch who purſues them, as luring they fly,
Often finds but a treacherous grave.

Still this wide-ſpreading wood ſhall protection afford,
From man, vile aſſociate man!
Kind nature ſtill cater our homely-ſpread board;
Still for winter the fruits of rich autumn we'll hoard;
And the brook ſhall repleniſh our can.

Full oft had the year made the foreſt bough bare,
When the good man grew faint with diſeaſe:
'Twas then he firſt truſted his ſon from his care,
Alone thro' the foreſt, to find for him there,
Some ſimples his anguiſh to eaſe.

Ah! luckleſs the time, that all wild with diſmay
Thou roveſt adventurous alone!

No

No medicine, fond youth! did thy ſearches repay,
That might eaſe of his anguiſh thy father that day,
No herb that would ſoften thine own.

To the foreſt's green verge all unknowing he came,
where two females firſt met his young ſight:
Unuſual commotion then ſhot through his frame,
He felt a new paſſion he could not well name,
And pined for ſome unknown delight.

They vaniſh'd, and back to his far-diſtant home
He wander'd in penſive ſurmiſe;
The herbs from his ſcrip to his father were ſhown:
But O! cried the youth, as he fetch'd a deep groan,
What viſion has dazzled mine eyes?

Some viſion, I fear, ſon, that bodes thee no good!
But prithee the wonder declare,
Two lovely white forms paſs'd the tree where I ſtood,
And glided ſo ſoftly away in the wood.
They ſeem'd to diſſolve in the air.

Ah! talk not ſo fondly of what thou haſt ſeen,
They are fairies that haunt the wood ſide!
Ah! ſhun them as ſerpents that coil on the green,
Or they'll wound thee with arrows tormenting and keen,
Then ſorely thy ſufferings deride.

Dear youth! thou haſt ſeen me all ſorrowful ſteal
To the hillock beſide our low cot;
My days are departing too truly I feel!
Thy kindneſs avails not—thy herbs will not heal!
O lay me to reſt in that ſpot.

But remember my counſel when ſilent and low,
All remembrance of me may ſubſide:
O never! no never beyond the wood go,
And ſhun as thou ſhunneſt thy bittereſt foe,
The fairies that haunt the wood ſide!

He died, and was buried the green hillock nigh,
That roſe by the ſide of the cot,
Then the youth for ſome unknown delight heav'd a ſigh,
The foreſt's wild beauties no more pleaſed his eye,
And the counſel of age was forgot.

'This ſaid, the next morn he aroſe with the day,
To ſeek where the viſion he ſpied:
No more in theſe deſerts, he cry'd, will I ſtay,
But will ſeek at all riſk, tho' my father ſaid nay,
The fairies that haunt the wood ſide.

THE AFFECTIONATE HEART.

BY JOSEPH COTTLE.

LET the great man, his treaſures poſſeſſing,
Pomp and ſplendour for ever attend:
I prize not the ſhadowy bleſſing.
I aſk—the affectionate friend.

Tho' foibles may ſometimes o'ertake him,
His footſtep from wiſdom depart;
Yet, my ſpirit ſhall never forſake him,
If he own the affectionate heart.

Affection! thou ſoother of care,
Without thee unfriended we rove;
Thou canſt make e'en the deſert look fair,
And thy voice is the voice of the dove.

'Mid the anguiſh that preys on the breaſt,
And the ſtorms of mortality's ſtate:
What ſhall lull the afflicted to reſt,
But the joys that on ſympathy wait?

What is Fame, bidding Envy defiance,
The idol and bane of mankind?
What is wit, what is learning, or ſcience,
To the heart that is ſtedfaſt and kind?

Even Genius may weary the ſight,
By too fierce and too conſtant a blaze;
But Affection, mild planet of night!
Grows lovelier the longer we gaze.

It ſhall thrive when the flattering forms
That encircle creation decay;
It ſhall live mid the wide-waſting ſtorms,
That bear all undiſtinguiſh'd away.

When Time, at the end of his race,
Shall expire with expiring mankind;
It ſhall ſtand on its permanent baſe;
It ſhall laſt till the wreck of the *mind*.

PRO-

* From the Annual Anthology.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GREAT BRITAIN.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Jan. 21. 1800.

THE Houſe met purſuant to adjournment; and the new Biſhop of Oxford having taken the oaths and his ſeat,

Lord Grenville ſaid, that although it was not uſual to give notice of a Meſſage, yet, as he ſaw many of their Lordſhips preſent, it might not be improper to inform them, that probably to-morrow he ſhould bring one down, and lay certain important papers upon their table, when he ſhould move to take them into conſideration on a future day, perhaps Monday.

21. *Lord Grenville* brought down the following Meſſage from his Majeſty, together with the papers therein alluded to, the former of which he moved to have read:

"GEORGE R.

"The Supplies granted in the commencement of the preſent Seſſion having been calculated to provide only for the firſt months of the year, his Majeſty now recommends it to the Houſe to make ſuch further proviſion as they may judge neceſſary under the preſent circumſtances for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice, and for the vigorous proſecution of the War; and his Majeſty has given directions that the proper Eſtimates for this purpoſe ſhould be laid before the Houſe.

"His Majeſty has thought proper on this occaſion to direct that there ſhould be laid before the Houſe copies of communications recently received from the enemy, and of the anſwers which have been returned thereto by his Majeſty's command.

"His Majeſty entertains the fulleſt confidence that thoſe anſwers will appear to this Houſe to have been conformable to that line of conduct which was required from his Majeſty on this occaſion, by his regard to all the moſt important intereſts of his Dominions: and his Majeſty, having no object more at heart than that of contributing, as ſoon as the ſituation of affairs ſhall render it practicable, to the eſtabliſhment of the general tranquillity of Europe, on a ſure and ſolid foundation; and of providing effectually for the ſecurity and permanent proſperity of his faithful People, places a firm reliance on the continued ſupport of his Parliament, and on the zeal and perſeverance of his Subjects in ſuch meaſures as may beſt tend to confirm the ſignal advantages which have been obtained to the common cauſe in the courſe of the laſt campaign, and to conduct the great conteſt in which his Majeſty is engaged to a ſafe and honourable concluſion.

"G. R."

This Meſſage having been read, his Lordſhip ſaid he had another Meſſage from his Majeſty, which was alſo read.—The purport of this was, that a number of Ruſſian troops, which had acted as auxiliaries in the expedition to Holland, at the concluſion of the campaign, had been brought to this country:—the lateneſs of the ſeaſon, and other cauſes, having rendered it impoſſible for them to be conveyed to the Imperial dominions, his Majeſty had therefore given orders for accommodations to be prepared for them in the Iſlands of Guernſey and Jerſey; and which he thought proper to communicate to their Lordſhips.

Lord Grenville then obſerved, that he had yeſterday entertained thoughts of moving to have theſe Meſſages taken into conſideration on Monday next; but as he underſtood that Tueſday would be more convenient to ſome of their Lordſhips, he ſhould now move for that day; which motion being put, was ordered accordingly.

Adjourned to Tueſday next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Jan. 21.

The Speaker read from the Chair three letters received by him from the Commanders in the late expedition to Holland, acknowledging the receipt of his letters conveying the thanks of the Houſe to thoſe Officers, and to Sir Ralph Abercromby and to the Army, viz. from his Royal Highneſs Field Marſhal the Duke of York, Commander in Chief, and from Admirals Lord Duncan and Sir Andrew Mitchell. The letter of the latter attributes the failure of the expedition to the weather and other phyſical cauſes; and adds, that, on the part of the Executive Government, the whole was planned and conducted with profound wiſdom and policy. The other letters are formal and complimentary.

Colonel Stanley preſented a petition from the Debtors confined in the goal of Lancaſter, praying for relief.—Ordered to be laid on the table.

Mr Sheridan roſe to give notice of a motion which it was his intention to make relative to the late Expedition to Holland. He underſtood that an Hon. Member near him meant to move for a Call of the Houſe on Monday the 3d of February next; and, as ſuch a motion muſt bring a full attendance, he would be regulated by it, and would therefore name the 3d of February alſo for bringing forward his motion.

Mr Tierney ſaid, that certainly he had thought of moving for a Call of the Houſe; but, conſidering the importance of the intereſts expected to come into diſcuſſion, he did hope the Miniſter, or ſome friend near him, would move for it. At any rate, he truſted he ſhould receive the ſupport of Gentlemen on the other ſide to ſuch a motion.

Mr Pitt had no objection to a Call of the Houſe, but was of opinion that, as had taken place heretofore, Gentlemen would attend from a mere ſenſe of duty, if the importance of the buſineſs ſhould ſuggeſt a neceſſity for their doing ſo. On every motion he was extremely deſirous of a full attendance of the Members of that Houſe; and here he would take an opportunity to obſerve, that he expected to have it in command from the Throne to bring down a Meſſage to-morrow, relative to the "Overture of the Enemy," accompanied by ſeveral papers connected with the buſineſs of that Overture, and which he ſhould at the ſame time move to be taken into conſideration on Monday next.

Mr Tierney then gave notice, that he ſhould make the ſaid motion to-morrow.

Mr Long preſented ſeveral public accounts relative to the Finances, which were laid on the table.

Mr Abbot moved for ſeveral Accounts of the Produce, Expenditure, &c. of the Public Revenue; which were ordered.

Mr Tierney moved for the following Accounts, viz.

No. 1. An Account ſhewing how the Monies raiſed by Exchequer Bills, on the Votes of this Seſſion, have been applied.

No. 2. Shewing how the Money given for the Service of 1799 was employed, diſtinguiſhing the application, &c. and what ſurplus, if any, remains.

No. 3. Amount of the Debt outſtanding on Exchequer Bills, to the 5th of January, 1800, diſtinguiſhing, under different heads, the Funds chargeable with the Payment of them, and the Funds remaining to ſatisfy the ſame.

No. 4. Amount of the actual Produce of the Tax on Income, to the 5th of April, 1800, diſtinguiſhing the Amount aſſeſſed by the Commercial Commiſſioners, as far as the ſame can be made out.

No. 5. Income of the Conſolidated Fund, and Charges on the ſame, for the 5th April, 5th June, and 10th October, 1799, and 5th January, 1800.

No. 6. Amount of the Contribution raiſed in Aid of the War, and of the Duties on Exports and Imports.

No. 7. Of the Diſtribution of the Sum of 2,500,000l. voted for the Extraordinary Services of the Army in 1799.

After a few words acroſs the table between Mr Pitt and Mr Tierney, theſe ſeveral Accounts were ordered.

Mr Tierney next moved—

"For an Account of the Advances made by the Bank of England to Government, on Account of the Duties on Malt, Sugar, &c. and alſo the Amount of the Advance to Government by the Bank on Government Securities, for 21ſt Sept. 21ſt Oct. 21ſt Nov. 21ſt. Dec. 1799, and 21ſt Jan. 1800."

Mr Pitt objected to the general nature of this Account. After ſome converſation between him and Mr Tierney, an amendment, leaving out the words "relative to the Sums on Government Security," was moved and carried; and the Account, in its amended ſtate, was ordered.

22. *Mr Pitt* preſented his Majeſty's Meſſage (ſee page 145,) which was read, and ordered to be taken into conſideration on Monday next.

Call of the Houſe.

Mr Tierney roſe to make his promiſed motion on this ſubject. It was not his wiſh, he ſaid, to haraſs the diſtant Members by calling for an enforced attendance; but he would aſk, whether there was, in the recollection of the Houſe, a Seſſion of more importance than the preſent. An Hon. Friend of his (Mr Sheridan) had given notice of a motion for an enquiry into the conduct of the Expedition to Holland. It would, in his opinion, have been a ſufficient motive for a Call of the Houſe, to aſcertain where the blame of that diſaſtrous expedition ſhould be made to reſt. This was of itſelf a very important queſtion, but there were others of equal magnitude. There was that of the Union with Ireland. He concluded by moving, that a Call of the Houſe ſhould be ordered for the

the 5th of February, to which day he was authorized to ſay, that Mr Sheridan had agreed to poſtpone his motion.

Mr Jones ſaid, he ſhould certainly ſupport the preſent motion, though he ſhould be left in a minority of two, as he was on a ſimilar motion in the early part of the Seſſion, when it was aſked that the Militia ſhould be broken up to ſtrengthen the forces in Holland. He was then told by the Miniſter, that the Expedition was bottomed on principles founded "in human nature!" That Expedition, however, had failed, and the propoſed enquiry certainly demanded the collective attendance of the Houſe. The war and its calamities called for the attention of the National Aſſembly (*a laugh*) —he meant the National Repreſentation: he had not the ſame command of words as ſome Gentlemen had on the oppoſite ſide.—He thought a coercive Call was neceſſary, as he had never ſeen what might be called a full attendance of that Houſe but once on a *Partridge* Bill.

The Maſter of the Rolls was againſt the motion. Mr Tierney replied: after which the Houſe divided—ayes 32—noes 115.—Adjourned to Monday.

THE

MONTHLY REGISTER

FOR *FEBRUARY* 1800.

Intereſting Intelligence from the London Gazettes.

Downing-Street, Oct. 19. 1799.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copy and Extracts, have been received from Lieutenant-Colonel Ramſay, and Lieutenant-Col. H. Clinton, by the Right Honourable Lord Grenville, his Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

Copy of a Diſpatch from Lieutenant Col. Ramſay to Lord Grenville, dated Head-quarters, Schaffhauſen, dated Sept. 30, 1799.

MY LORD,

It is with extreme regret I inform your Lordſhip, that an attack has been made on the Allied Army, the reſult of which has been favourable to the enemy. The combined operations of the Allies, of which your Lordſhip is already informed, were intended to have taken place on the 26th and 27th; and ſix battalions of the army, commanded by Gen. Korſakof, were detached to Uznach on the 25th, for the purpoſe of increaſing the force deſtined to act in that quarter. The enemy, who was no doubt apprized of this circumſtance, attacked the Ruſſian army on the 25th, at a very early hour in the morning; a briſk attack of muſquetry was heard on our left in the neighbourhood of Walliſhofen, accompanied by a cannonade on our right, which appeared to proceed from the neighbourhood of Baden. The attack on our left was intended merely for the purpoſe of drawing the attention from the true point; and the enemy paſſed the Limmat in great force in the neighbourhood of Weinengen, between Zurich and Baden. By this manœuvre they broke the line in that quarter, cut off from the army the eight battalions under the command of Generals Markof and Duraſof, who were poſted between Weinengen and the Rhine; and, after leaving a corps for the purpoſe of obſerving and attacking them, they aſcended the Limmat towards Zurich. A regiment of dragoons being, in conſequence of the detachments that had been ſent away, and the troops that had been drawn to the left, the only force remaining in the part where the paſſage was effected, the enemy advanced and arrived in the neighbourhood of Zurich before they experienced any reſiſtance of conſequence; the plain in front of Zurich between the Limmat and the Heights, which, running parallel to the Limmat, form a continuation of the Albis to the North-weſt, being occupied at the ſame time by a line of their infantry and cavalry, who, with a very numerous train

of artillery, attacked with great vigour the troops in front of Zurich, and prevented their detaching to their right the point on which the great efforts of the enemy were directed. At a late hour in the forenoon ſome reinforcements arrived on this ſide of the Limmat, but the enemy were already maſters of ſome of the principal heights which command the town; and notwithſtanding the bravery diſplayed by the Ruſſians in their repeated attacks, the ſuperiority in point of force and poſition on the ſide of the French rendered it impoſſible to regain that which had been loſt. At ſunſet the French had made themſelves maſters of part of the Zurich-Berg, and nearly ſurrounded the town. The attack on the poſition of General Hotze had terminated rather in favour of the Auſtrians, but General Hotze was unfortunately killed at the commencement of the action, and Gen. Petrarſch, who ſucceeded to the command of the army, having reſolved, in conſequence of the loſs he had ſuſtained, to avoid the attack which he expected the next morning, retreated in the night from Uznacht. The ſituation of the Ruſſian army was thus rendered ſtill more critical, and it became abſolutely neceſſary to abandon Zurich, and the poſition in that neighbourhood, without delay. On the 26th in the morning, the retreat took place, and the whole arrived in the courſe of that night in the neighbourhood of Egliſau and Schaffhauſen, without experiencing any loſs of conſequence during their march. We have to regret the loſs of between two and three thouſand men killed, wounded, and miſſing; and ten pieces of cannon have, with a part of the baggage, fallen into the hands of the enemy. A nearly equal number of French cannon were taken by the Ruſſians; but the want of horſes, which prevented them from taking away their own, was the cauſe of their being alſo obliged to leave theſe. The army under the command of Gen. Korſakof is at preſent poſted with its right at Egliſau, and its left to the Lake of Conſtance. By a letter juſt arrived from Field Marſhal Suwarrow, it appears that he has taken the Mount of St. Gothard, and is at preſent advancing towards Altdorf and Schweitz. I am, &c.

(Signed) *John Ramſay*

Extract of a Diſpatch from Lieut-Colonel Ramſay to Lord Grenville, dated Headquarters, Schaffhauſen, Sept. 30.

Your Lordſhip has already, no doubt, received accounts, through France, of the calamities which have befallen us in this country, in which our loſſes have moſt probably been exaggerated to a great degree. Aware of this, I would, if poſſible, have ſent your Lordſhip an earlier account; but it was impoſſible for me to give a correct ſtatement of the real ſtate of things, which was much worſe to appearance when the army firſt arrived here than at preſent. General Petrarſch has retreated from the different poſitions between Ufnach and Rheinech, where it is ſuppoſed he has already paſſed the Rhine, and this part of Switzerland may be conſidered as completely evacuated for the preſent; it is the more unfortunate, as the ſucceſſes of Field Marſhal Suwarrow would have rendered the ſucceſs of the projected operation almoſt certain, if we had fortunately been able to retain our poſition. At preſent the Field Marſhal's ſituation will be rendered very critical, if timely notice has not been received by him of the retreat of the armies. I am ſorry to inform your Lordſhip, that, from the reports which I have received, there is reaſon to apprehend that the Swiſs regiments of Bachman and Roverea have ſuffered conſiderably. I have as yet had no exact accounts, and I will defer therefore making any report to your Lordſhip till another opportunity occurs, as I am in hopes their loſs has been chiefly occaſioned by diſperſion, in which caſe it will probably every day diminiſh.

Extract of a Letter from Lieut. Colonel Henry Clinton to Lord Grenville, dated Bellenzona, Sept. 16, 1799.

Having been directed by Lord Mulgrave to attend Field Marſhal Suwarrow on his march to Switzerland, and to tranſmit to your Lordſhip accounts of the proceedings of this army, I have the honour to inform you, that it reached Tavence, about ten miles ſhort of this place, yeſterday evening; having performed in five days a diſtance of 116 Engliſh miles. It was the Field Marſhal's intention to have recovered, by the length of his marches, the three days loſt by the falſe alarm for the ſafety of Tortona; but the aſſemblage of mules which was ordered to be made at this place not being completed, and the impoſſibility of carriages proceeding any further in the mountains, obliges him to halt for one day.

Copy of a Diſpatch from Lord William Bentinck

Bentinck to Lord Grenville, dated Head-quarters, Savigliano, Sept. 18, 1799.

On the 16th, the Auſtrian army arrived at Bra. On the ſame day the French advanced from the ſide of Coni and Pignerol, to Foſſano and Savigliano. In the latter place they ſucceeded in taking by ſurpriſe an Auſtrian detachment, conſiſting of 400 men, with two pieces of cannon. It was reported that the French intended the day following to form a junction of all the corps in the different vallies, for the purpoſe of advancing into the plain with the greater ſecurity, in order to pillage and plunder the country. To prevent this movement, the main army marched from Bra in two columns on the 17th; one under the command of Gen. Kray attacked Foſſano. The enemy, who were in force there, defended themſelves with great bravery for near two hours; but the ſuperior courage of the Auſtrian troops obliged them to abandon the poſt with the loſs of about 250 priſoners. The Auſtrian General Sechendorf, an Officer of great reputation, was very ſeverely wounded. The column of Gen. Melas took poſſeſſion of Savigliano without great reſiſtance. Two pieces of cannon and 200 priſoners were taken. The whole army will encamp near this town to-day. I am, &c.

W. Bentinck.

Extract of a Letter from Munich, dated Sept. 29, 1799.

Two thouſand four hundred men, as a part of the Elector's contingent, are to march on the firſt of next month from the neighbourhood of Donauwerth to join the army of the Archduke Charles. The plan for forming into military corps the inhabitants of the Palatinate, is to have its effect throughout the Circle of Bavaria. It is framed for 20,000 men, and is to be commanded in Bavaria by Major Gen. Durov, an officer enjoying a high military character.

[A letter from Vice-Admiral Lord Keith, ſtates the capture of a French privateer of 6 guns and 60 men by the Alcmene, Capt. H. Digby; and a letter from Capt. R. Stopford ſtates the capture of a French corvette of 18 guns and 153 men, by the Excellent under his command.]

Admiralty-Office, Oct. 22.

Extract of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Mitchell to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated on board his Majeſty's Ship Iſis, near the Vlieter, dated the 15*th inſt.*

I encloſe a Copy of a Letter from Captain Campbell, giving an account of the capture of four gun-boats in the Zuyder Zee, and a Copy of a Letter from Captain Boorder, containing an account of two unſucceſsful attacks made by the enemy on Lemmer; by all which their Lordſhips will perceive, that I cannot too highly extol the gallantry and good conduct of theſe Captains, and of the Officers and men under their command.

His Majeſty's Gun Brig Haſty, off Marken, Oct. 7, 1799.

SIR,

I beg to inform you, that I yeſterday ſailed from Uſk, with the Haſty, Defender, and Cracker brigs, and Iſis ſchuyt; and having reached this place by four A. M. I proceeded with the boats to attempt cutting out the Dutch gun-boats lying on or near the Pampus, and am happy to ſay, ſucceeded in getting poſſeſſion of four without the loſs of a man. They each mount four long guns or carronades, and have between twenty and thirty men; one of them built on purpoſe for a gun-veſſel and quite new, carrying two long eighteen-pounders in her bow, and two eighteen-pounder carronades on her broadſide; the reſt are ſchuyts.

I beg to recommend to your notice Meſſrs. Hall and Winter, Midſhipmen, for their ſpirited behaviour on this occaſion, as alſo all the ſeamen engaged, for their alacrity in boarding, and good conduct after having gained poſſeſſion. I have ſent the Defender with charge of the gun-boats, and have the honour to be, &c. *Patrick Campbell,*

Commander of his Majeſty's ſloop Dart.

Vice-Admiral Mitchell, Enchuyſen.

Lemmer Town, Weſt Frieſland, Oct. 11, 1799.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you, that at five o'clock this morning the enemy made a general attack on this town in four different parts. Their advanced party attempted to ſtorm the North Battery. We ſoon got them between two fires; our tars with pikes ſurrounded them, and they immediately laid down their arms. Their force was one Officer, one Sergeant, one Corporal, and 28 men, two of the latter killed. We had no ſooner ſecured our priſoners, than they attacked us with the remainder of their force, 670 in number. Our little army

army did wonders; for with ſailors and marines our force was only 157. We fought them for four hours and a half, when the enemy gave way in all directions: I immediately ordered the marines to purſue them. Their breaking down a bridge prevented their colours and two field-pieces from falling into our hands; but before this was effected the heavy fire from the marines had killed 18 of the enemy and wounded about 20; and in their general attack they had 5 men killed and 9 wounded.

It is impoſſible for me to ſpeak too highly of the Officers and men under my command. Lieut. Wyburn of the Marines, as alſo Lieutenants Howel, Higginſon, and Gardner, behaved with honour to themſelves and credit to their country. Lieut. Norman of the Navy, as alſo Mr Lane, Mr Iron, Mr Wheatly, Mr Travers, and Mr Petty, diſtinguiſh themſelves in a moſt gallant manner, as did likewiſe the whole of the ſailors and marines.

It affords me great ſatisfaction to inform you we had not a man hurt.

I am, &c.

James Boorder.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Mitchell to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated on board his Majeſty's ſhip the Iſis, the 18th inſtant.

SIR,

I have the honour to encloſe you the Copy of a Letter to me from Captain Winthrop, giving an account of his having captured a ſloop of war and an armed ſchooner, by which their Lordſhips will perceive that he acquitted himſelf with his uſual zeal and good conduct; and that the Officers and men under his command are entitled to my higheſt commendation.

I have the honour to be, &c.

A. Mitchell.

Circe, River Ems, Oct. 11, 1799.

SIR,

Being detained here by contrary winds, which deprived me of the pleaſure of acting with you in the Zuyder Zee, I proceeded to reconnoitre the port of Delfzel, where I diſcovered a ſloop of war and a ſchooner lying within muſquet ſhot of the batteries; and conceiving it practicable to carry them by a coup-de-main, I gave the neceſſary orders for that purpoſe, but the weather proving tempeſtuous, nothing could be effected until eight at night. Delfzel being diſtant 20 miles from the Circe, the boats proceeded with the firſt of the tide, and arrived there juſt as the moon went down; at which time I ordered the attack to be made by Lieut. Maughan upon the ſhip, and Lieutenant Powle upon the Schooner, who boarded and carried them in a moſt gallant manner, and I am happy to ſay without any loſs, notwithſtanding the enemy's guns were loaded, primed, and the matches lighted. The name of the ſhip is the Lynx, of 12 guns, eight and twelve-pounders, and 75 men; that of the ſchooner, the Perſeus, mounting eight four-pounders, and 40 men.

The Officers, Seamen, and Marines employed upon this ſervice deſerve my warmeſt acknowledgements for their cool, ſilent, and ſteady conduct, to which our ſucceſs was in a great meaſure owing: and I feel great ſatisfaction in having an opportunity to do juſtice to the merits of my Firſt Lieut. Mr Maughan, whoſe zeal for the ſervice I have often witneſſed; and alſo to Mr Powle, my Second Lieutenant, whom I have had frequent occaſion to commend.

To Lieutenant Buckle, of the Hawke cutter, and Capt. May, a Naval Officer in the ſervice of the Prince of Orange, who very handſomely volunteered their ſervices with me on this occaſion, I am much indebted for their advice and aſſiſtance.

I have the honour to be, Sir, &c.

R. Winthrop.

Copy of a Letter from Mr James Le Barr, commanding the May Flower Private Ship of War, to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated at Guernſey, the 14th inſt.

SIR,

I take the liberty to adviſe you, for their Lordſhip's information, that I yeſterday returned from a cruize of ſix months in the private ſhip of war the May Flower, belonging to this iſland, during which I captured a Spaniſh gun-boat, mounting two long braſs eighteen-pounders, and forty-three men; and a Spaniſh packet, cutter rigged, mounting eight guns, fours, four of which are braſs, and four ſwivels, and 27 men; the former I ſent into Minorca, and the latter into Gibraltar; beſides which I alſo captured four merchant veſſels, as per liſt at foot hereof, three of which I ſaw ſafe in port, and the fourth I left on the 8th inſtant in the homeward bound Liſbon Fleet, under convoy of his Majeſty

Majeſty's ſhips the Impregnable, Excellent, and the Alcmene frigate.

I have the honour to be, &c.

James Le Barr.

In Minorca.—The Caroline French brig, about 90 tons, from Leghorn to Toulon, laden with hemp and 20 boxes, plates of tin.

In Gibraltar.—A brig under Daniſh colours, from the Coaſt of Spain, laden with 405 pipes and 60 hogſheads of brandy.

In Liſbon.—The St Joſe Spaniſh Latine bark, from Rio-de-la-Plata to Barcelona, with 60 tons of cocoa, 70 hides, and a few bales of cotton.

Left on the 8th inſt. with the homeward bound Liſbon Fleet, the Spaniſh ſchooner Santo Chriſto del Grao, about 90 tons burthen, from Cadiz to La Guayra, with various kinds of merchandize.

Downing Street, Oct. 26.

Lieut. Col. Clinton, Aide-de-camp to his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York, arrived this morning at the office of the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, with diſpatches, of which the following are Copies:

Head-quarters, Schagen Brug, Oct. 20.

SIR,

In my late communications I have repreſented to you the circumſtances under which I found it expedient to withdraw the army from its forward poſition in front of Alkmaer, within that which it at preſent occupies, and which I truſt will have appeared to his Majeſty ſufficient to warrant the meaſure. The ſeaſon of the year, which has already aſſumed here the aſpect of winter, gave me, from day to day, additional reaſon to apprehend that any attempt towards a proſecution of the campaign in this country could not be attended with deciſive advantages, whilſt the impoſſibility of covering the troops in the narrow diſtrict of the country in our poſſeſſion during the winter, and the precarious ſtate of ſupplies to be expected in that ſeaſon, added to the conviction I felt, that the moſt adviſeable meaſure to be purſued, was to remove with the army to England, an operation which, although it might have expoſed the army to ſome loſs in its execution, I judged in my mind preferable to any other which could be adopted. Under this impreſſion, and conſidering that ſerious loſs might enſue from delay, I have been induced to conclude an Armiſtice, in conjunction with Vice-Admiral Mitchell, with General Brune, commanding the French and Batavian armies, of which the conditions are incloſed, and which, although they provide for delivering up a large number of priſoners of war, now in our hands, yet I truſt will not be thought by his Majeſty an inadequate compenſation for many valuable lives which muſt have been loſt, after the object which has hitherto directed them no longer promiſed ſucceſs; and when the only means which preſented themſelves of enſuring a ſecure retreat were thoſe of reſorting to the deſtructive meaſure of inundation from the ſea, which as it would have involved the inhabitants in the northern parts of this province in ruin for a ſeries of years, muſt have been highly repugnant to the feelings, as well as contrary to the character and practice of the Britiſh Nation. I reſt confident, that the motives which I have here detailed will excuſe me to his Majeſty for having acted without waiting for previous inſtructions from home, and that I ſhall have the ſatisfaction of knowing that my conduct in this reſpect has met with his Majeſty's gracious approbation. I am, &c.

(Signed) *Frederick.*

Tranſlation.

Articles agreed upon between Major Gen. Knox, duly authoriſed by his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York, Commander in Chief of the combined Engliſh and Ruſſian Army, and Citizen Roſtollant, Gen. of Brigade and Adjutant General, duly authorized by Citizen Brune, General and Commander in Chief of the French and Batavian Army.

Art. I. From the date of this Convention all hoſtilities ſhall ceaſe between the two armies.

Art. II. The line of demarkation between the ſaid Armies ſhall be the line of their reſpective out-poſts as they now exiſt.

Art. III. The continuation of all works, offenſive and defenſive, ſhall be ſuſpended on both ſides, and no new ones ſhall be undertaken.

Art. IV. The mounted batteries taken poſſeſſion of at the Helder, or at other poſitions within the line, now occupied by the Combined Engliſh and Ruſſian Army, ſhall be reſtored in the ſtate in which they were taken, or (in caſe of improvement) in their preſent ſtate, and all the Dutch Artillery taken therein ſhall be preſerved.

Art.

Art. V. The Combined Engliſh and Ruſſian Army ſhall embark as ſoon as poſſible, and ſhall evacuate the territory, coaſts, iſlands, and internal navigation of the Dutch Republic, by the 30th of November, 1799, without committing any devaſtation, by inundations, cutting the dykes, or otherways injuring the ſources of navigation.

Art. VI. Any ſhips of war, or other veſſels which may arrive with reinforcements for the combined Britiſh and Ruſſian Army ſhall not land the ſame, and ſhall be ſent away as ſoon as poſſible.

Art. VII. General Brune ſhall be at liberty to ſend an Officer within the lines of the Zuyp and to the Helder, to report to him the ſtate of the batteries and the progreſs of the embarkation. His Royal Highneſs the Duke of York ſhall be equally at liberty to ſend an Officer within the French and Batavian lines, to ſatisfy himſelf that no new works are carried on on their ſide. An Officer of rank and diſtinction ſhall be ſent from each Army reſpectively, to guarantee the execution of this Convention.

Art. VIII. Eight thouſand priſoners of war, French and Batavians, taken before the preſent campaign, and now detained in England, ſhall be reſtored without conditions to their reſpective countries. The proportion and choice of ſuch priſoners for each, to be determined between the two Republics. Major Gen. Knox ſhall remain with the French army to guarantee the execution of this article.

Art. IX. The cartel agreed upon between the two armies for the exchange of the priſoners taken during the preſent campaign, ſhall continue in full force till it ſhall be carried into complete execution; and it is further agreed that the Dutch Admiral De Winter ſhall be conſidered as exchanged.

Concluded at Alkmaer, the 18th of October, 1799, by the underſigned General Officers, furniſhed with full powers to this effect.

(Signed) *Knox, Major General.*
(Signed) *Roſtollant.*

[Then follows a return of the killed, wounded and miſſing, between the 6th and 10th of October, of which the following is the Total:]

15 horſes killed; 1 Lieut.-Colonel, 1 Captain, 4 horſes wounded; 1 Subaltern, 1 ſtaff, 3 Serjeants, 35 rank and file, 1 horſe miſſing.

Return of Officers wounded and miſſing.

18th Light Dragoons.—Honourable Lieutenant Colonel Stewart, Captain Hay, wounded; Quarter Maſter, Mr Kelly miſſing.

2d Battalion Royals—Lieutenant Lyſter miſſing.

(Signed) *Alex. Hope,*
Deputy Adjutant General.

Admiralty Office, Oct. 23.

Copy of a Letter from the Right Hon. Lord Bridport, K. B. Admiral of the White, &c. to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated in Torbay the 21ſt inſt.

SIR,

It is with ſincere ſatisfaction I acquaint you, that Lieutenant Jauncey, of his Majeſty's ſhip Ethalion, is juſt arrived here from Plymouth, by whom I have received a letter from Captain Young, ſtating his having captured, on the 16th inſt. the Thetis Spaniſh frigate, with much treaſure and a valuable cargo of cocoa on board; alſo informing me, that another Spaniſh frigate, her conſort, has no doubt been taken by the Naiad. Encloſed is a copy of Captain Young's letter, which I tranſmit for their Lordſhips' information.

I have the honour to be, Sir, &c.
Bridport.

His Majeſty's Ship Ethalion, Plymouth Sound, Oct. 21.

MY LORD,

I have the pleaſure to inform your Lordſhip, that on the 16th inſt. at three P. M. in latitude 44 deg. 53 min. longitude 9 deg. 53 min. Weſt, we diſcovered three large ſail on the weather bow, evidently men of war, ſteering S. E. with all ſails ſet. I immediately tacked and ſtood under eaſy ſail, with an intention to ſpeak to the ſternmoſt, or to follow them till day-light, with a view to aſcertain their force. On a nearer approach to the above ſhip ſhe made the private ſignal; concluding from that the other two ſhips were enemies, I made all poſſible ſail in chace. At day-light I found her to be his Majeſty's ſhip Naiad, and another frigate in company, which I took to be the Alcmene, and two large frigates a-head. At ſeven the Naiad made my ſignal to paſs the ſternmoſt, and ſtand on for the headmoſt. At nine A. M. being within random ſhot of the ſternmoſt, I fired a few guns in paſſing, which made her alter her courſe. At half paſt eleven the headmoſt ſhip bore

up

up athwart us, at the diſtance of half muſquet-ſhot: by the abilities and meritorious conduct of the Officers, the ſteady ſpirit and prompt obedience to my orders of the ſeamen and marines, with a well-directed fire of two broadſides from the Ethalion, and a running fight of an hour, exchanging bow and ſtern chaces, the latter part within half piſtol-ſhot, I had the pleaſure of ſeeing her haul down Spaniſh colours to his Majeſty's ſhip under my command. She proves to be the Thetis Spaniſh frigate, of 36 guns, twelve and ſix pounders, and 250 men, commanded by Don Juan de Mendoza, from Vera Cruz, bound to any port in Spain ſhe could fetch, with 1,411,526 dollars, and a quantity of cocoa on board. I have the additional ſatisfaction to acquaint your Lordſhip, that not a ſingle man is hurt on board the Ethalion. The other Spaniſh frigate is called the Brigida, commanded by Don Antonio Pillou, the ſame force and lading as the Thetis. The laſt time I ſaw the Naiad, which was juſt before the action took place, was nearly within gunſhot of her, and I have no doubt of her being captured. I beg leave to recommend to your Lordſhips' notice Lieut. Pym, the Senior Officer; the able aſſiſtance I received from him on the quarter-deck, and his indefatigable exertions in ſhifting the wounded maſts and yards on board the Thetis, do him the utmoſt credit. I cannot paſs over in ſilence the praiſe due to Lieutenants Jauncy and Quilliam, for their great attention to the guns on the main-deck, nor that of Mr Ducker the Maſter, and Lieut. Peake of the Marines, for their aid on the quarter-deck; the Warrant and Petty Officers, ſeamen, and marines, alſo merit your Lordſhips' notice.

I have the honour to be, &c.

James Young.

Ethalion—None killed or wounded.
Thetis—One killed and nine wounded.

Copy of another Letter from Lord Bridport to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated October 22.

SIR,

Captain Digby, of his Majeſty's ſhip Alcmene, is juſt arrived here; he came from Plymouth by land, charged with diſpatches from Capt. Pierrepoint, of his Majeſty's ſhip Naiad, ſtating, with other occurrences, the important capture of the Santa Brigida, Spaniſh frigate, conſort of the Thetis, (as ſtated in Captain Young's letter of yeſterday's date) copies of which you will herewith receive for their Lordſhips' information, whom I ſincerely congratulate upon this fortunate event, which does ſo much credit to Capt. Pierrepoint, and all the Officers, ſeamen, and marines of the different ſhips under his command, for the meritorious and perſevering conduct manifeſted upon this occaſion.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Bridport.

Naiad, off Cape Finiſterre, Oct. 19.

MY LORD,

I have great pleaſure in being able to acquaint you, that the ſhips named in the margin * (which your Lordſhip has done me the honour to put under my orders) captured yeſterday morning the Spaniſh frigate Santa Brigida, of 36 guns, and having on board 300 men, commanded by Don Antonio Pillou. This frigate, my Lord, in company with another called the Thetis, left Vera Cruz on the 21ſt of Auguſt laſt, and I had the good fortune to fall in with them both, on the evening of the 16th inſt. in latitude 44 deg. 1 min. N. longitude 12 deg. 35 min. W. at eight P. M. the Naiad then a ſingle ſhip, and to which I immediately gave chace; before midnight I diſcovered them to be veſſels belonging to the enemy, and was joined by the Ethalion: when the day broke I was alſo joined by the Alcmene, when the Triton was diſcovered far aſtern ſtill, owing to the ſuperior ſailing of the latter ſhip; after a chace which laſted 32 hours, I ſet myſelf down as indebted for a moſt valuable capture. The two frigates at ſeven A. M. perceiving themſelves not in a ſtate to withſtand our united force, took different routes, upon which I made the Ethalion's ſignals to paſs the ſternmoſt ſhip of the enemy, as ſhe at that time took the lead in point of ſailing, and ſtand for and engage the headmoſt veſſel, which was obeyed with that alacrity by Capt. Young, that I make no doubt but ſhe has experienced a ſimilar fate to her companion; but as the Santa Brigida made a determinate puſh on the ſouthern courſe, a ſeparation of courſe took place. The latter frigate of the enemy having rounded Cape Finiſterre on the morning of the 18th inſt. by her faſt ſailing, about five o'clock her Commander

* Naiad, Triton, Alcmene.

ſhoved ſo very cloſe to the rocks of Monte Lora; that the Triton, who was firſt in purſuit, (Captain Gore being regardleſs of every thing but cloſing with the enemy,) ſtruck upon the ſaid rocks, going ſeven knots at the time. I fear her damage is conſiderable: however, ſhe was ſoon off again, and commenced an animated fire on the enemy, as did Capt. Digby, with an Officer-like preſence of mind, keeping in that direction to cut off the entrance of Port de Vidre. At eight A. M. the three frigates cloſed with the enemy amidſt the rocks of Commarurto, at the entrance of Muros, when the colours were hauled down, and we found ourſelves all in foul ground together. A fortunate breeze ſprang up from the ſhore, and we were enabled to put the ſhips heads to the ſea, and began to ſhift priſoners, when a Spaniſh ſquadron, conſiſting of four large ſhips, one with a broad pendant, came out of Vigo, with an intention, I ſuppoſe, of reſcuing the prize. This being the opinions of Captain Gore and Digby alſo, every exertion was made to ſecure the priſoners and get the ſhips under my command ready to receive them; but on their perceiving my determination, they bore up and ran into Vigo. Light and variable winds have kept me ſtill in ſight of the Spaniſh coaſt, which is to-day one continued blaze; and as I was aware of another ſquadron of Spaniſh ſhips being in Corunna, have thought it my duty to keep altogether for the protection of the prize, which is of immenſe value, having on board one million four hundred thouſand dollars, independent of a cargo of equal eſtimation. My companions in chace, Captains Gore and Digby, make the moſt favourable report of the zeal and perſeverance of their reſpective Officers and crews; and in juſtice to the Officers and ſhip's company I have the honour to command, I can only ſay, that their anxiety to get alongſide the enemy's frigates, whilſt alone, was equal to what it was afterwards, when my force became ſuperior; and on that, as on all former occaſions, I profited by the able aſſiſtance of J. H. Marſhall, my Firſt Lieutenant, to whom I have given charge of the prize. I incloſe a liſt of killed and wounded on this occaſion, either by ſhot or caſualties.

I have the honour to be, &c.

W. Pierrepoint.

Triton, One ſeaman wounded.—Alcmene. One ſeaman killed; 1 Petty Officer and 8 ſeamen wounded.—Santa Brigida. Two ſeamen killed, eight ſeamen wounded.

[A letter from Capt. Twyſden ſtates the capture of a French privateer by the Revolutionaire, under his command; a letter from Capt. Barlow ſtates the capture of a French privateer by the Phœbe, under his command; a letter from Capt. H. Digby ſtates the capture of a French privateer by the Alcmene, under his command; and a letter from Rear-Admiral Duckworth incloſes the following from Capt. Brenton to him:]

SIR, *Speedy, at Sea, Oct. 4.*

I have the honour to inform you, that yeſterday, whilſt running through the Gut of Gibraltar in ſight of the Britiſh convoy, I obſerved a number of ſmall veſſels coming out of Algeſiras, and concluded they were Spaniſh gun-boats endeavouring to cut off ſome of the merchant ſhips; I therefore ſteered for them in order to keep them as far as poſſible from the body of the fleet, but upon our near approach, perceiving they were Spaniſh coaſters (eight in number,) under the protection of a cutter and ſchooner, made all fail in chace, and ſoon ſeparated the two ſternmoſt from the body: they ran under the guns of a caſtle which opened a fire upon us, and prevented our bringing them off. We continued the purſuit of the others, paſſing under the ſhot from Tariffe Caſtle, and at four P. M. came up with four more in a bay to the eaſtward of Cape Trafalgar; one immediately anchored near a fort, and the other three under a caſtle which had one gun mounted: as it blew very heavy from the eaſtward, and being on a lee ſhore, we could not go as near them as I could wiſh, but anchored within four cables length, and bringing our guns to bear upon the caſtle (which appeared to be in a very ruinous ſtate, and did not return our fire,) and the veſſels, in a ſhort time, compelled the Spaniards to abandon them all, firſt cutting their cables, by which means they drove on ſhore. I then ſent Lieut. Parker to endeavour to bring them off, and ſhortly after Mr Marſhall (the Maſter) to aſſiſt; or, if that was not practicable, to ſet them on fire; neither of which could be effected from the heavy ſurf, breaking entirely over them, and rendering the approach dangerous to the boats. They, however, boarded them, brought away ſome of their fire-arms, threw the remainder overboard, leaving them full of water, and complete wrecks. One veſſel was laden

laden with brandy and paper, one with Engliſh manufactures, (cutlery, hardware, &c.) and the third in ballaſt. I beg leave to expreſs the high ſatisfaction I received from the conduct of Lieut. Parker, in boarding the veſſel under the walls of the caſtle, while expoſed to muſketry from the beach; alſo of Mr Ricketes, the Purſer, who was a volunteer upon that ſervice. The attention of Mr Marſhall, the Maſter, to the anchoring his Majeſty's ſloop, and the able aſſiſtance I have received from him upon former occaſions, renders him worthy of the fulleſt confidence.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. Brenton.

Downing-Street, Oct. 29.

A Diſpatch, of which the following is a copy, has been received from Lieutenant Col. Henry Clinton, by the Right Hon. Lord Grenville, his Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

Coire, Oct. 1799.

My Lord,

When I ſent your Lordſhip my laſt diſpatch on the 2d inſt. from Glaris, the report from Gen. Roſenberg, whoſe diviſion compoſed the rear guard, had not reached head-quarters. I have now the honour to inform your Lordſhip that the enemy, having received a conſiderable reinforcement from Zug, renewed on the 1ſt inſtant their attack near the village of Mutten, where, in conſequence of the fatigue the troops had undergone the preceding day, they had been obliged to halt. A ſtrong column of the enemy advanced by the road in the centre of the valley, while two others, ſkirting the foot of the mountains on each ſide, endeavoured to get into the rear of the Ruſſians. The diviſion of Gen. Roſenberg conſiſted of eight weak battalions and two regiments of Coſſacks. Diſcovering the intention of the enemy, he left five battalions as a reſerve, and with three (the breadth of the valley not admitting of a greater front) ſupported by the Coſſacks, he attacked the centre of the enemy; their heavy guns for a moment gave them an advantage; but nothing could withſtand the ſteadineſs of the Ruſſian attack. In the hurry of their retreat, an ammunition waggon was overſet, which choaked the only road by which the cannon could move; three pieces were immediately taken poſſeſſion of by the Ruſſians. The flank columns, ſeeing their centre pierced, fled. Gen. Roſenberg profited of the confuſion of the enemy, and purſued them beyond Schwitz. In killed and wounded they loſt above 500 men and 13 officers, and 1010 men were taken priſoners. The Ruſſians had in this affair about 300 men killed and wounded.

It was the 4th in the evening before the ſick and wounded could be tranſported to Glaris; the road not admitting of the paſſage of artillery, the guns were deſtroyed; on the 5th, the army marched by the valley of Semſt to Elm; the difficulty of the roads made it impoſſible to remove the wounded. The enemy followed the rear guard, and gained ſome trifling advantages over it during the firſt three or four miles of the march; upon a well-timed attack, however, of the Ruſſians, they deſiſted from any farther attempt. On the 6th, the army paſſed the Danix Mountain, which the ſnow that had fallen during the laſt week had rendered dangerous, and ſeveral mules and baggage horſes were loſt on the march. The army is now aſſembled at this place, and after two days of repoſe, it is the Marſhal's intention to form a junction with the army of General Koſcakow.

I have the honour to be, &c.

H. Clinton.

The Right Hon. Lord Grenville, &c.

Downing-Street, Nov. 2.

A Diſpatch, of which the following is a copy, has been this day received from Lieutenant Colonel Ramſay, by the Right Hon. Lord Grenville, his Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

Head quarters, Stockach, Oct. 15.

My Lord,

The Ruſſian army, under the command of General Korſakof, took up a poſition, after its retreat from Zurich, with its right to Eglizaw and its left to Conſtance. The bridges of Dieſſenhofen and Stein were occupied by it in front, and a garriſon of two thouſand men were placed in a tete de pont at Bueſingen, a village between Dieſſenhofen and Schaffhauſen, where a pontoon bridge had been placed by the Auſtrians. On the 8th, the enemy appeared in force in the neighbourhood of Bueſingen. It was evident that he came for the purpoſe of reconnoitring the poſition: and though he retired in the evening, there was reaſon to believe that he had not retreated far. An immediate attack on the tete de pont was expected.

On the morning of the 9th, General Korſakof reſolved to paſs the Rhine for the purpoſe of driving the enemy from their poſition. He took with him 10 battalions and 22 ſquadrons.

The army advanced for about a league without diſcovering any traces of the enemy. They at laſt, however, found him in conſiderable force, and ſtrongly poſted, with his left to the village of Schlatten, and his right to a wood which he had alſo occupied. It is impoſſible for words to do juſtice to the intrepidity with which the Ruſſians immediately attacked them. The whole line fell upon them with their bayonets, and the French flew for protection to the woods, where, under cover of their Chaſſeurs, they endeavoured to take a ſecond poſition. They were driven from this likewiſe by the Ruſſians, and a third poſition, which they took in the neighbourhood of the village of Tublikon, was likely to have proved ſtill more unfortunate to the French.

Two of their battalions had already thrown down their arms, and were on the point of ſurrendering, when a regiment of French cavalry, followed by a large column of infantry, commanded by Maſſena in perſon, came in view and ſaved them.

The object of the expedition was to drive the enemy from the woods in the neighbourhood of the tete de pont, and this object being effected, it became no longer prudent, with ſo ſmall a corps, to riſk an action with a force now become ſo ſuperior, or to advance farther unſupported, againſt the enemy, who, from the neighbourhood of their army, had an opportunity of receiving ſtill greater reinforcements. After driving the enemy therefore nearly to the river Thur, the army retreated by the road on which they had advanced, and entered their camp about ſix o'clock in the evening.

While theſe operations were going on in the neighbourhood of Bueſingen, the enemy attacked the bridge of Dieſſenhofen and the town of Conſtance, which confirmed us in the belief that the attack would have taken place on the tete de pont, if the offenſive operations on the ſide of the Ruſſians had not prevented it.

At Dieſſenhofen they were repulſed by Gen. Worneſſ, who with a very ſmall number of men very gallantly defended himſelf during the whole of the day, and, after occaſioning a very great loſs of men to the French, took ſeveral priſoners and three pieces of cannon.

At Conſtance, where the corps of the Prince of Conde were ſtationed, the enemy were more ſucceſsful. The poſition which the Prince was obliged to take up for the defence of the town was vaſtly too extenſive for his ſmall number of men, and being unable to guard all the different points ſufficiently, the enemy, after directing all his efforts unſucceſsfully againſt their front, contrived at laſt to advance a corps unperceived through the vineyards, force the left of the poſition and enter the town before the reſt of the Prince's corps, who had commenced their retreat, were enabled to reach it.

On their arrival at the gates, they found them in the poſſeſſion of the enemy, and no other retreat left but that which was to be obtained by forcing their way through a town, of which the ſtreets were already occupied. In effecting it they ſuſtained a conſiderable loſs; but the gallantry which was diſplayed by all the corps, and particularly by the grenadiers of Bourbon, in the execution of this deſperate meaſure, was, as I am informed, entirely beyond the reach of praiſe.

The loſs of Conſtance was accompanied by the loſs of the bridge at that place, and this latter circumſtance endangered conſiderably the left of the Ruſſian poſition. General Korſakof, on receiving the intelligence, thought it adviſeable to concentrate his force and retire his men from the tete de pont during the night—a meaſure which has now become a matter of regret, the bridge of Conſtance having been retaken on the 10th.

I am ſorry to inform your Lordſhip, that our loſs in theſe different attacks amounts to nearly fifteen hundred men, killed, wounded, and miſſing; the loſs of the enemy muſt have been very conſiderable; but I have not had an opportunity of aſcertaining it. A conſiderable number of priſoners fell into our hands at the attack of Bueſingen, but, with the exception of about fifty, they contrived to make their eſcape during the retreat. Four pieces of cannon fell into our hands, three of which, already mentioned at the attack of Dieſſenhofen, the fourth in the neighbourhood of Schlatten.

I have the honour to be, &c.

John Ramſay.

Admiralty-Office, Nov. 5.

[A letter from Lord Bridport ſtates the

the capture of a French privateer by the Stag. Capt. J. S. Yorke.]

Admiralty-Office, Nov. 16.

Copy of a Letter from the Right Hon. Lord Nelſon, K. B. Rear-Admiral of the Red, and Commanding Officer of his Majeſty's Ships and Veſſels in the Mediterranean, to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated Palermo, 1ſt Oct. 1799.

SIR,

I have deſired Commodore Trowbridge to ſend you, for the information of their Lordſhips, Extracts of all his Letters to me, with the terms entered into with the French for the evacuation of the City of Rome and Civita Vecchia; on which event I ſincerely congratulate their Lordſhips, and am, Sir, with great reſpect, &c.

Nelſon.

SIR, *Civita Vecchia, Oct. 5, 1799.*

I am to requeſt you will inform their Lordſhips, that I took poſſeſſion of Civita Vecchia, Corneto, and Tolfa, on the 19th and 30th ult. with 200 marines and ſeamen of the Culloden and Minotaur, and have already embarked and ſent off near 3000 of the enemy; I now wait for tranſports to get off the remainder, which I ſuppoſe 2000 more.

General Bouchard takes poſſeſſion of Rome at the ſame time by the ſame Treaty: all public property to be reſtored; their Lordſhips may rely on every exertion, on my part to put the capitulation in full force, and truſt I ſhall ſucceed.

I have the honour to be, &c.

T. Trowbridge.

SIR, *Civita Vecchia, Oct. 5, 1799.*

In obedience to order from Lord Nelſon, I have the honour to ſend you, for their Lordſhips' information, a copy of the Articles of Capitulation I have made with the French General Gurnier, to clear the Roman State. As I knew the French had all the valuables of the Roman State packed up ready for embarking, and the coaſt at Civita Vecchia forming a deep bay, with hard W. S. W. gales and heavy ſeas, which prevented the blockade from being ſo cloſe as was neceſſary to prevent the enemy from carrying off thoſe truly valuable articles; I therefore thought it beſt to grant the liberal terms I have, to get them out of this country, where they have committed every exceſs poſſible.

I truſt what I have done may meet their Lordſhips' approbation.

I beg you to repreſent to their Lordſhips, that I received every aſſiſtance from Capt. Louis, who went to Rome and arranged the evacuation, and taking poſſeſſion of that place, with General Bouchard, with great ability and exertion, and much to my ſatisfaction.

I have the honour to be, &c.

T. Trowbridge.

[Here follow the Articles of Capitulation.]

Copy of a Letter from Capt. John Talbot, Commander of his Majeſty's Ship Eurydice, to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated the 12th, inſt.

SIR,—I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Right Hon. the Lords Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, that I ſailed from hence at one o'clock A. M. on Sunday the 10th inſt. and was forced to return this day from the badneſs of the weather. At nine the ſame morning I ſailed, Beechy Head N. W. by N. three leagues, a ſchooner was ſeen from us cloſe to a brig. On ſeeing the Eurydice the ſchooner ſtood to the S. W. and the brig hove to and hoiſted his Enſign Union downward; I hauled up and ſpoke her; ſhe told me that ſhe had been attacked by the ſchooner, and that one of her men was very badly wounded. I ſent a boat with the ſurgeon on board, and made ſail after the privateer. At eleven I ſaw his Majeſty's ſloop Snake on our lee bow, ſeeing us, ſhe hauled up, and joined in the chace. At three o'clock the privateer finding that the Eurydice was nearly within gun-ſhot, and coming up with her very faſt, bore up, and attempted to croſs the Snake, which ſhe was not able to effect, from the good management of Capt. Lewis; ſhe then lowered her ſails and was taken poſſeſſion of by him. The privateer proved to be *L'Hirondelle*, mounting 14 three and four-pounders, 50 men, and commanded by Pierre Merie Dugerdin, belonging to Calais, from whence ſhe ſailed on Saturday morning; had taken nothing this cruize. One of the crew I found to be an Engliſhman, and have confined him till your Lordſhips' pleaſure is made known to me. I am ſorry to add, that the Surgeon has been obliged to take off the arm of the man that was wounded in the brig; he is now on board of the Eurydice, and hope, from the ſkill and great

great attention of Mr Pardie, the Surgeon, that he will do well. The brig is called the Diana of Sunderland, bound to Portſmouth, laden with coals. Great credit is due to the maſter and crew for the reſiſtance they made to ſo ſuperior a force.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. Talbot.

SCOTLAND.

The Magiſtrates of Edinburgh, upon an application from the Journeymen painters, (made ſome time ſince) have found them entitled to a riſe on their preſent wages, at the rate of two pence-halfpenny on each ſhilling, until the price of oatmeal ſhall be under twenty pence per peck, and one penny halfpenny each ſhilling, when the price ſhall be under twenty pence and at and above fifteen pence, and alſo found them entitled to 2s. 6d. per week extra, of travelling money and expences, in the event of their being ſent to work in the country.

High Court of Juſticiary.

Jan. 27. Came on before the Court the trial of Griffith Williams, late a ſailor on board the Suſannah, of Charleſtown, South America, accuſed of the murder of Anne Wilſon, or Bruce, on the 10th of December laſt, in her houſe, Leith.—It appeared from the evidence, that the priſoner and the deceaſed had a quarrel, reſpecting ſome money, which he alledged ſhe had robbed him of, and that he committed the murder in a very cruel and deliberate manner, by ſtriking her ſeveral blows on the head and other parts of the body with a ſtick.

It appeared that Ann Bruce was a perſon of bad character, much given to drink, and very quarrelſome: That ſhe had often been before the Magiſtrates of Leith for riots and petty thefts; and it ſeemed alſo clear ſhe had taken Williams's money, as ſhe changed a guinea in gold with a ſhoemaker for ſhoes to herſelf and one of her children, on the morning of the 10th, and had alſo bought ſome new clothes on that day.

The Lord Advocate addreſſed the Jury for the Crown, and Mr J. P. Grant for the priſoner. The Lord Juſtice Clerk ſummed up the whole in a very able manner.

The Jury returned their verdict next day all in one voice, finding the priſoner Guilty of the crime libelled, upon which he was ſentenced to be hanged at the common place of execution at Edinburgh on the 12th of March, and his body to be given to Dr Monro, Profeſſor of Anatomy in this Univerſity, to be publicly diſſected and anatomized. Before pronouncing ſentence, the Lord Juſtice Clerk addreſſed the priſoner and audience in a very pathetic and ſolemn ſpeech, earneſtly recommending the unhappy man to repent of the great crime he had committed, and warning the audience, eſpecially the young, againſt ungovernable guſts of paſſion, which frequently were attended with the moſt melancholy conſequences, of which the preſent trial was a ſtriking inſtance.

Feb. 12. A perſon walking on an unfrequented part of the beach near Whitby, diſcovered a bladder waſhed on ſhore. It was tied with a ſtring, and on being opened, it was found to contain a paper parcel, and a ſhilling, entreating the diſcoverer to open it, and ſend the incloſed letter (for God's ſake) to a Mrs Barry, at Biſhop-Wearmouth, which was accordingly done.—Captain Barry (of the Bellona,) who was maſter of his own ſhip, after firing away all his ammunition, and being deſerted by his crew, was taken by the Perſeverant privateer, of Dunkirk, near Flambro' Head, on Monday ſe'ennight, ſo that the bladder muſt have floated about 20 leagues.

Feb. 14. We have ſeldom related a more melancholy accident than what happened this morning, to Miſs Nelly Watt, daughter of the deceaſed Mr James Watt, tobacconiſt in Glaſgow, a young Lady about 20 years of age. Some days ago ſhe had been attacked with a ſevere cold, which ſoon brought on a fever and delirium. While in this ſtate, ſhe was attended by her mother, who, on Thurſday night perceiving her quiet, fell aſleep for a few minutes. When ſhe awaked, her daughter was amiſſing, and it appears ſhe had gone out of the houſe and ſtrayed into the Molendinar Burn, which was in the neighbourhood. It was ſometime before her body was found (though diligent ſearch was made) and then no ſymptoms of life remained. The diſtreſs of the mother and all the family may be eaſily imagined.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 1. At Newark, Mrs Hugh Campbell, a daughter.

19. Mrs Gordon of Aberdour, a ſon.

24. Mrs Robſon, Belford, a ſon.

Feb. 2. At Reſtalrig, Mrs Lawrenſon of Inverighty, a daughter.

MARRI-

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 3. At Haddington, Colin Mac-Laurin, Esq. Advocate, to Miss Jane Wilkie, third daughter of James Wilkie, Esq. of Rathobyres.

—. At Glasgow, Mr Wm. Wilson, merchant, to Mrs Mary Finch.

4. At Edinburgh, Capt. J. Stewart, younger of Fosa, to Miss E. Mackenzie Menzies, only daughter of Mr Alexander Menzies, one of the Principal Clerks of Session.

6. At Waygateshaw, Mr Robert Gairdner, Solicitor, Supreme Courts, to Miss Ann Steel, youngest daughter of William Steel, Esq. of Waygateshaw.

7. At Falkirk, Mr Michael M'Gilchrist, surgeon, to Miss Christian Schaw, eldest daughter of Mr William Schaw, surgeon.

20. At Rothesay, Mr John Ewing, merchant in Greenock, to Miss Jean Colquhoun of Ilay.

—. At Greenock, Archibald Ferrier, Esq. writer to the signet, to Miss Catharine Garden, eldest daughter of Mr Francis Garden, merchant in Greenock.

24. M. Stovin Fenwick, Esq. Captain in the North York militia, to Miss Frances Ann Farquharson, third daughter of the late Alexander Faquharson, Esq. of Haughton.

—. At Falkirk, Mr George Napier, merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Janet Galbraith.

31. At Bowerhouses, Mr Colin Arrott, Glasgow, to Miss Jean Cunningham, daughter of the Rev. Robert Cunningham of Balgownie.

At Edinburgh, John Stuart, Esq. of Castleton, to Miss Isabella Wright.

Lately, at London, Walter Learmonth, Esq. of Edinburgh, to Miss Annand of Aberdeen.

At London, Lieut. Robert Ramsay, of the Royal Navy, to Miss J. Newall, only daughter of J. Newall, Esq. of Burrstreet.

At Clumber Park, Notts, Col. Charles Crauford to her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle. She had been long attached to the Colonel, whose wounds, still uncured, did not prevent that amiable Lady from keeping her promise. With equal candour and magnanimity, we are informed, Colonel Cunningham, who was so desperately wounded in Holland, told Miss Wortley, that he considered the accident that had befallen him, to be of a nature to put an end to every engagement between them: the Lady nobly answered, "that unless his mind was more altered than his person, she wished to perform her vows."

The example of the Great is often pleaded to palliate the vices of their inferiors; may every class emulate the virtues of these truly noble Ladies.

DEATHS.

April 28. Near Seringapatam, Lieut. James Bruce, in the service of the East India Company, son of Mr Adam Bruce, writer in Edinburgh.

—. On his passage from Bombay for the Straits of Babelmandel, Mr Thomas Hay, late of Kelso, surgeon of the 84th regiment of foot.

June 20. Near Seringapatam, Captain Walter Monteath, of his Majesty's 19th regiment light dragoons, son of Mr Walter Monteath, merchant in Glasgow.

August 22. On board the Woodford Indiaman, Mr Andrew Forsyth, midshipman, much beloved, and regretted, by Capt. Martin and his crew.

Sept. 14. At New York, of the yellow fever, Mr Andrew Balmain, merchant, son of the late Mr John Balmain, writer in Edinburgh.

Nov. 8. At Mount Lebanus, St. Thomas in the East, Jamaica, Mr James Aitkin, mill-wright, eldest son of Mr Archibald Aitkin, Canongate Edinburgh.

19. On his passage to the West Indies, Mr David Niven, writer in Glasgow.

Dec. 28. At Manchester, in Virginia, Mr James Henderson, son to Archibald Henderson, Esq. of Glasgow.

—. At Aberdeen, Mr John Bruce, sen. merchant and manufacturer.

Jan. 3. At Edinburgh, George Fairholme, of Greenknow.

4. At Perth, Mrs Stewart, wife of Mr Patrick Stewart, sen. merchant.

—. At Whiteworth, Mrs Paterson of Craigton.

7. At Lisbon, Mr Robert Willis, merchant there, youngest son of the Rev. Mr George Willis, Minister of Leslie.

12. At Polquhairn, Ayrshire, Mrs Crawfurd of Polquhairn.

—. Mrs Gillespie, relict of John Gillespie, of cherry Trees.

13. At St. Andrews, Mr Charles Sibbald.

14. At Walthamstow, Mrs Spence, wife of Charles Spence, Esq.

17. At Wellhouse, Mrs Millar, widow of Mr John Millar, of Wellhouse, in the 81st year of her age.

—. At Aberdeen, Mrs Moir of Scotstown.

18. Miss Ann Govan, daughter of Mr Archibald

Archibald Govan, late merchant in Glaſgow.

Jan. 18. At Inverneſs, Mrs Anne Shaw, wife of Alpin Grant, Eſq. of that place.

20. At Aberdeen, Mrs Burnet, wife of Alexander Burnet, Eſq of Caſkieben.

—. At Edinburgh, Mrs Majory Kinnier, wife of Mr Andrew Kinnier, merchant.

21. At Glaſgow, Mrs Robert Luke, in the 93d year of her age.

—. At Millfield, the Rev. Mr William Finlay, miniſter of Polmont.

22. At Athlone, Ireland, Lieut.-Col. Sir William James Cockburn, Bart. Major of the 1ſt battalion of Royals.

—. At Glaſgow, Mr John M'Farlane, Supervifor of Excile.

24. At Pitroddie, in Perthſhire, much regretted by his friends and hearers, the Rev. Mr John Keills, miniſter of the Burgher Seceder congregation.

— At Dumfries, Mrs Clark, wife of Mr Samuel Clark, jun. writer.

—. At Dumfries. Mrs Maxwell wife of Hugh Maxwell, Eſq. writer.

—. At London, the Hon. Mrs Hamilton, widow of the late Hon. and Rev. Mr George Hamilton, brother to the late Earl of Abercorn.

—. In Georges Square, Edinburgh, Catherine Phillips, infant daughter of John Phillips, Eſq.

—. At Edinburgh, Mr J. H. Lawrence, ſecond ſon of the late William Lawrence, Eſq. of Hilton Hill, Jamaica.

Lately, at Woolwich, Mr Bartlett, aged 74, a ſuperannuated carpenter of the navy; a very ſingular character; who though in perfect health, confined himſelf to his room for 23 years. He wore nothing during this period but a morning gown, he did not make uſe of either fire or candle, never read, or amuſed himſelf in any manner, and would ſuffer no perſon to ſee him, except his relations where he lived. Neither his hair or nails were cut, or his face ſhaved, for the above time. Before he died, his hair reached the floor, and was ſo matted together from not being combed, that it was as hard and as firm as a board; his nails were about one inch longer than his fingers, curved like a parrot's bill.

26. At her houſe in Nicholſon's Street Edinburgh, Miſs Jean Jardine, daughter of the late Rev. Mr Robert Jardine.

—. At Dunfermline, Mr Robert Stenhouſe, eldeſt ſon of John Stenhouſe, Eſq. of South Fod.

—. At the Manſe of Garvald, the Rev. Mr Andrew Niſbet, miniſter of that pariſh.

Jan. 27. At Campend, near Dalkeith, Nath. Donaldſon, Eſq. late of the Iſland of Tobago.

—. In Lower Groſvenor-Street, London, James Semple, Eſq.

—. At Edinburgh, Mrs Mary Veitch, aged 89.

—. At her houſe, St. Andrew's Square Edinburgh, Mrs Margaret Aikman, relict of Hugh Forbes, Eiq. one of the Principal Clerks of Seſſion.

28. At London, the moſt Hon. the Marchioneſs of Bute. The Marquis was in the Houſe of Peers when he was informed of the melancholy event. Her Ladyſhip's deceaſe was extremely ſudden. On the morning of the above day, the Marquis left her apparently in perfect health, attended by an uncommon flow of ſpirits. She fell out of her chair and expired, as it is ſuppoſed, in an apoplectic fit.

—. At Edinburgh, Mrs Gordon, wife of Mr James Farquhar Gordon, writer to the ſignet.

29. At Dumfries, Mrs Bell, Relict of John Bell of Dunnabie.

30. At Cromarty, William Forſyth, Eſq.

31. Robert Crichton, Eſq. of Boreland.

—. At Spotteſhall, aged 84, Michael Herris, Eſq. of Spottes.

At Hopetoun Houſe, Miſs Ann Watſon, eldeſt daughter of Charles Watſon, Eſq. of Saughton.

At London, Mrs Fraſer, wife of Hugh Fraſer, Eſq. of the War Office.

Feb. 1. At his houſe in North Caſtle Street, Edinburgh, James Drummond, Eſq. of Comrie, writer to the ſignet.

—. At Aberdeen, Mr John Stewart, Skelmuir.

2. At Falnaſh, Mr William Scott of Huddersfield, Yorkſhire, ſon of Mr James Scott, Skelf-hill.

—. Miſs Landeſs, of Robroyſton.

3. At Montroſe, Thomas Webſter, Eſq. late Provoſt of that Burgh.

4. At London, the Hon. Mrs Adam, Lady of William Adam, Eſq. Barriſter at Law; ſhe was the ſiſter of Admiral Lord Keith.

—. At Edinburgh, Dr. David Wardrobe.

—. At Burnbank, Mrs Muirhead, relict of Alex. Muirhead, Eſq. late of Linhouſe.

6. Mr Joſeph Simpſon, clothier in Aberdeen.